

WJAC-TV

Quarterly Problems Program Report

January 1, 2003 to March 31, 2003

Filed: April 10, 2003

**Submitted by:
Nancy Shull
Program Assistant**

Quarterly Problems Program Report Programs Line-Up

KEY TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING			
NEWSCENTER 6	5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	MONDAY – FRIDAY	40:00 CONTENT
NEWSCENTER 6	6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	MONDAY – SUNDAY	20:00 CONTENT
NEWSCENTER 6	11:00 PM – 11:35 PM	MONDAY – SUNDAY	25:00 CONTENT
NIGHTLY NEWS	6:30 PM – 7:00 PM	MONDAY – SUNDAY	20:00 CONTENT
TODAY SHOW	7:00 AM - 10:00 AM	MONDAY – FRIDAY	2:00:00 CONTENT
DATELINE	VARIOUS PRIME 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM	VARIOUS MONDAY – SUNDAY	VARIOUS 48:00 - 1:36:00 CONTENT
DR. PHIL	11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	MONDAY – FRIDAY	48:00 CONTENT
CONNECTING WITH KIDS	7:30 PM – 8:00 PM	WEDNESDAY, 1/29/03 & 2/26/03	22:00 CONTENT
FIRST IN FORTITUDE	7:30 PM – 8:00 PM	SATURDAY, 2/22/03	21:00 CONTENT
HEROIN: NOT EVEN ONCE	7:00 PM – 8:00 PM & 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	THURSDAY 2/13/03 SATURDAY 2/22/03	57:20 CONTENT

WJAC-TV

PUBLIC AFFAIRS RELATED PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

DR. PHIL – A national syndicated program that discusses controversial, personal, and social issues. The show addresses one topic per episode and follows an interview format with some expert consultants and guests. The host, Dr. Phil McGraw, offers expert counseling. The show airs Monday – Friday, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

CHANNEL 6 NEWS - The Channel 6 News Department uses the ascertained problems of the community as a basis to decide what topics should be dealt with more extensively than the day-to-day news coverage. Listed in this report are the news stories that covered the ascertained issues. The stories listed aired on 5:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm, and 11:00 pm newscasts.

DATELINE – An NBC news program that presents news on a wide variety of topics, ranging from entertainment, to health, business, event coverage, safety, and social issues. The show follows a news magazine format, introducing reports submitted by show correspondents of varying lengths. The show airs various days Monday – Sunday, at various times during the prime schedule from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

NBC NIGHTLY NEWS – An NBC news program that presents news reports of national interest and concern. Listed in this report are the stories that pertain to ascertained issues in which the national and local concerns coincide.

TODAY – An NBC news program that presents news on a wide variety of topics, ranging from entertainment, to health, business, event coverage, safety, and social issues. The show follows a varied format, complete with anchored news reports, reports submitted by correspondents, talk-show style interviews, and entertainment performances. Listed in this report are stories presented which pertain to the ascertained issues. The show airs Monday – Friday, 7:00 am – 10:00 am.

CONNECTING WITH KIDS – A national syndicated program that presents issues pertinent to the lives of young people. The show addresses one topic per episode and follows a documentary format with expert consultants and case studies. The show airs once a month Wednesday evening 7:30 PM – 8:00 PM.

HEROIN: NOT EVEN ONCE – A one-time-only special telecast with an encore presentation depicting the growing heroin addiction problem among young people in Western Pennsylvania. The show follows a documentary format with expert consultants and case studies. The show depicted the devastation of heroin use to individuals, their families, and the community as a whole. The show also profiled the road to recovery from addiction. The show aired on a Thursday evening 7:00 – 8:00 PM and a Saturday afternoon 1:00 – 2:00 PM.

FIRST IN FORTITUDE – A one-time-only special telecast depicting the cultural, industrial, and scientific contributions of pioneering Western Pennsylvania African Americans despite the handicap of racial discrimination. The program followed a documentary format depicting historical information. The show aired on a Saturday evening 7:30 – 8:00 PM.

QUARTERLY PROBLEMS PROGRAM REPORT
ASCERTAINED ISSUES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2003

1. DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM /LAW ISSUES
2. COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES
3. SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL ISSUES
4. GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES
5. PRIMARY ELECTIONS
6. TAXES
7. GOVERNOR RENDELL'S BUDGET PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT /
POLITICAL ISSUES
8. QUALITY OF LIFE / ENVIRONMENT
9. WINTER SAFETY & OTHER SAFETY ISSUES
10. EFFECT OF BETHLEHEM SALE ON RETIREES & OTHER
JOB/LABOR/ECONOMY / BUSINESS ISSUES
11. WOMEN'S ISSUES
12. FAMILY ISSUES
13. HIGHWAY & OTHER TRANSPORTATION ISSUES
14. CULTURAL, ETHNIC, RACIAL, GENDER, & RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION
ISSUES
15. WAR WITH IRAQ

*REPORT ALSO INCLUDES INFORMATIONAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST UNDER
THE ABOVE CATEGORIES.

Public Service Announcement Listing 1st Quarter 2003 by Issues and Problems

Title	Organization	Summary	Length
ISSUE: DRUG ABUSE /CRIME / LAW			
"Jesslyn Rose"	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	White female-teenager in marching band Killed by drunk driver 11 years after accident	:30
"John Elliot"	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	White male at Naval Academy Graduation Killed by a drunk driver	:30
"Jeff Peckler"	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	White teenage boy killed, friends speaking at assembly after his death "Drunk Drivers Don't Kill All Their Victims"	:30
"Wiggins Kid's"	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	3 children individually, then shot of car wreck that killed them	:30
"Barry Bonds" for RADD	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	Baseball game, Barry bonds delivering message about drunk driving	:30
"Cyndi Thompson" for RADD	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	Country music video to her delivering message about drunk driving	:30
"Kelly Hu" for RADD	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	Her in studio, to message delivered about drunk driving	:30
"Aerosmith" for RADD	Ad Council/ Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign	Concert shots to Steven Tyler and Joe Perry delivering message about a drunk driver	:30
"High Risk"	Buckle-Up PA: Click It Or Ticket	Different scenario's w/ police and accidents: buckle up is the message, shot of all police from overhead yelling Click It.... At end.	:30
"Teens"	Buckle-Up PA: Click It Or Ticket	Focused on Teen Driving safety and buckling up, some statistics... Police yelling Click It... at the end	:30
"Children"	Buckle-Up PA: Click It Or Ticket	Focuses on small children and their safety seats. Police yelling Click It... at the end	:30
"Your Brain Gets Dizzy"	Drug Free PA	Targets ages 6-9. Kids and animated friends sing about why they don't do drugs.	:20 :30
"Coroner"	Drug Free PA	Targets Teens/Parents—Coroner giving report on a girl dying from Ecstasy use.	:10
"Flash Forward"	Drug Free PA	Targets Teens: They say ecstasy is the love drug, but when a girl dies at a rave everybody around her ignores her... "Where's the Love"	:20
"Fish Tank"	Drug Free PA	Targets: Tweens/Teens—taking water out of fish tank to represent lack of oxygen to your brain when you do drugs.	:10 :20 :30
"Nervous System"	Drug Free PA	Targets Teens—Animated representation of inhalants effects on a nervous system.	:30
"Jim"	Drug Free PA	Targets Parents—father saying his	:10

		daughter died from doing ecstasy 3 times.	
ISSUE: COLLEGE & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES			
"Success In School= Success In Life"	Ad Council/ Partners for Public Education	African American family seem to be at athletic event, really at school- get excited about your child's education	:30
"Big Bird/Bob"	Sesame Street Music In Education Works	Big Bird and Bob talking about music, b-roll of kids playing instruments/ singing	:30
"Big Bird/Bob"	Sesame Street Music In Education Works	Big Bird and Bob talking about music	:15
"Oscar/Bob"	Sesame Street Music In Education Works	Oscar and Bob talking about music	:15
"Involved"	National PTA	Set to music. Various shots of kids. Narrator talks about staying involved.	:30
"Moments"	National PTA	Set to music. Various shots of kids. Narrator talks about staying involved	:30
"New Shoes"	National PTA	Set to music. Various shots of kids. Narrator talks about staying involved	:30
"Bedtime Story"	Girl Scouts	Mom telling daughter bedtime story about ram, hard drives, gigabytes, etc.	:30 :20 :15
"Blue Sky"	Girl Scouts	Girl on beach asking why sky is blue.. dad says to match her eyes, she says wrong and gives the scientific explanation	:30 :20
ISSUE: VACCINES & OTHER HEALTH ISSUES			
"Numbers"	Coalition for Organ Donation	Kid getting into cab and going into hospital... African Americans are 12% of nation but 35% of those waiting for organs. Only you can save lives.	:60 :30
"Un-funniest Home Video"	Pediatric Emergency Care	Home Video of kid on playground with parents... falls off of swing... "Would you know what to do"	:30
"Elizabeth Dole"	National Hospice Foundation	Speaking about hospice care in the U.S. You do have options... talk about end of life care.	:60 :30 :15
"My Father"	National Hospice Foundation	Woman speaking about putting her father in a hospice, he didn't want to die in hospital. You are entitled to hospice care.	:60 :30 :15 :10
"Did You Know it"	National Mental Health Organization	You can feel sooooo good, but then you can feel sooooo bad. It may bio-polar and they can help.	:30 :10

"ITCO"	PA Breast Cancer Coalition	Executive Director of the coalition asking for you to donate part of your taxes to research.	:15
"Breast Cancer Doesn't Just Affect Women"	Ad Council/ Breast Cancer Research Foundation	White- father and daughter going through daily task without wife/mother who died of BC	:30
"Breast Cancer Doesn't Just Affect Women"	Ad Council/ Breast Cancer Research Foundation	African American Version of father and daughter going through daily tasks without wife/mother who died of BC	:30
"Kids"	Ad Council/ United Nations Foundation Aids Awareness	Set to music, kids wandering through big city alone – "AIDS has created over 14 million orphans worldwide	:60
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"Kids"	Ad Council/ United Nations Foundation Aids Awareness	Set to music, kids wandering through big city alone – "AIDS has created over 14 million orphans worldwide	:90
"Kids- Baby In Stroller"	Ad Council/ United Nations Foundation Aids Awareness	Baby in stroller crying all alone- "every 14 seconds AIDS turns a child into an orphan"	:15
"Kids-Baby In Crib"	Ad Council/ United Nations Foundation Aids Awareness	Baby in crib crying an orphan" — "every 14 seconds AIDS turns a child into	:15
"Kids—Boy w/ Pull Car"	Ad Council/ United Nations Foundation Aids Awareness	Boy pulling toy car down vacant highway- —"every 14 seconds AIDS turns a child into"	:15
"Dan Quayle-DVT PSA"	The Society for Vascular Medicine and Biology	Dan Quayle discussing at disease he had that millions are susceptible to (DVT)	:60
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"T-Score"	National Osteoporosis Foundation	Celebrity couple (LA Law) talking separately about her finding out she has osteoporosis—"Do you Know your T- Score"	:60
"Dan Quayle-DVT PSA"	The Society for Vascular Medicine and Biology	Dan Quayle discussing at disease he had that millions are susceptible to (DVT)	:60
"Beyond The Blues"	Depression and Bi-Polar Support Alliance	Surgeon General of the United States delivering message about mental illness and there is treatment available	:30
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"If You Could"	National Heart, Blood, and Lung Institute	If you could see a blood clot, plaque on your teeth, etc... then you could fix it – You can't see heart disease #1 killer among women	:20

"Jackie"	National Heart, Blood, and Lung Institute	Reenactment of a heart attack on a middle aged woman, she narrates	:30
"I Could...If They Would"	Muscular Dystrophy Association	Very electronic looking and sounding—If they (the doctors) could find a cure then he could do a variety of different things.	:30
"If You Could"	National Heart, Blood, and Lung Institute	If you could see a blood clot, plaque on your teeth, etc... then you could fix it – You can't see heart disease #1 killer among women	:30
"2002 NMDP PSA"	National Marrow Donor Program	Fireman who donated marrow, middle aged woman and child who received marrow—donate marrow—you can make a difference	:60
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"Cubicles: Get A Flu Shot"	Visiting Nurses Association of America	Cartoon of office from overhead—lots of cubicles, one guy is sick—"get your flu shot b/c he won't"	:60
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"Cubicles: Get A Flu Shot"	Visiting Nurses Association of America	Cartoon of office from overhead—lots of cubicles, one guy is sick—"get your flu shot b/c he won't"	:15
"Stork 111 Nice Workout"	March of Dimes	Take folic acid b/f you want to get pregnant—stork running around gym (a baby is unexpected) some women are running away others are chasing him	:30
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" T-Score"	National Osteoporosis Foundation	Celebrity couple (LA Law) talking separately about her finding out she has osteoporosis—"Do you Know your T- Score"	:30
" T-Score"	National Osteoporosis Foundation	Celebrity couple (LA Law) talking separately about her finding out she has osteoporosis—"Do you Know your T- Score"	:15
"Put Your Asthma To The Test"	Asthma Action America	Take a test to determine how bad and prevent asthma symptoms, woman having hard time at beginning, breathing great at end	:60
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"Stork 111 Nice Workout"	March of Dimes	Take folic acid b/f you want to get pregnant—stork running around gym (a baby is unexpected) some women are running away others are chasing him	:15
"Kids—Girl w/ Bear	Ad Council/ United Nations Foundation Aids Awareness	Little girl alone dragging huge bear up a stairway at a station – "every 14 seconds AIDS turns a child into	:15
"Open Mic"	Colon Cancer Prevention & Detection	A man dressed up a Polyp, two cops busting him at a luncheon—"you never know when a colon polyp is going to show up" Humorous in nature	:30 :25
"Family Picnic"	Colon Cancer Prevention & Detection	Man dressed up a colon polyp and invades a family picnic... colon police come to get him.	:30
"Alley"	Colon Cancer Prevention & Detection	Man dressed up as colon polyp—cops after him in Alley... appears to be a COPS simulation.	:30 :25
"Fridge"	Colon Cancer Prevention & Detection	Man dressed up a colon polyp invading a woman's fridge... You never know when a polyp is going to show up.	:30
"Stress: You Are Not Alone"	The Will Rogers Institute	Mother getting overly stressed by her 2 young children, man looking at bills... If you fell dizzy, etc. Take charge of your stress.	:30 :20 :15
"Dad"	March of Dimes	Premie born, father upset. Babies are born premature everyday, no one knows why, support research.	:30
"Mid-Life Matador"	American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons	Woman going off (you think she's leaving her husband) but she's going to matador camp to get fit.... Work yourself.	:60 :30 :15
"The Best Medical Care"	Shriners Hospital For Children	Elliot Gould (Friends)—Shriner's provides medical care for children free of charge	:30 :20
"The Future Is Now"	Shriners Hospital for Children	Scott Bakula—In the future all kid's will have access to free medical care—the future is now.	:30 :20
"Believe It Or Not"	Shriners Hospital for Children	Dean Cain—There's a network of hospitals that provide free healthcare to children	:30 :20
"Family Atmosphere"	Shriner's Hospital for Children	Kurtwood Smith—Kids' feel right at home at Shriners, free medical care.	:30 :20
"Celebrity Montage"	Shriners Hospital for Children	Martin Sheen, Scott Bakula, Michael Richards, Robert Duvall, Ricardo Montalban—You should know about Shriner's....	:30
"Get Real"	Institute of National Diabetes Association	Starts with people getting in shape and eating nothing then it flashes "get real" and has sensible tips for preventing diabetes.	:30
"A New Leash on Life"	Foundation of	Dog being walked, has a new	:30

	Biomedical Research	"leash" on life b/c of open heart surgery. Research helps animals too.	
"Color of Life"	Produce For Better Health Foundation	Set to music—different color represent different foods, add a little color to your life.	:30
"Every Seven Minutes"	American Foundation for the Blind	Every week 1400 people are diagnosed with severe visual impairments... they can help.	:30 :20 :15
ISSUE: ENVIRONMENT			
"Man On Street"	EPA	People on street answering questions about radon... quiz style.	:60 :30
"One"	Earth Share	Voiced by Harrison Ford—totally animated. One Earth One way to care for it... visit their website to find out what their doing.	:60 :30
ISSUE: TAXES			
"Flat Tire"	IRS	Woman's car gets a flat tire, getting your tire changed may not be a click away, but your taxes can be.	:30 :15
"Diaper"	IRS	Father running around holding baby with smelly diaper... Life isn't easy as pushing a button, cut your taxes can be.	:30 :15
"I Love You"	IRS	Most working families with kid's qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit.	:30
ISSUE: WOMEN'S ISSUES			
"Who I Am"	Women's Sports Foundation	Various shots of teen athletes (female) Girl who play sports are more likely to succeed in life.	:30
ISSUE: FAMILY ISSUES			
"Big Daddy"	Ad Council/ Pennsylvania Fatherhood Initiative	Godzilla and baby Godzilla stomping around blowing fire- set to music – "All it takes to be a dad is a little time..."	:30
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"Tarzan"	Ad Council/ Pennsylvania Fatherhood Initiative	Tarzan and son having fun in jungle – "All it takes to be a dad is a little time..."	:30
"Tarzan"	Ad Council/ Pennsylvania	Tarzan and son having fun in jungle – "All it takes to be a dad is	:20

	Fatherhood Initiative	a little time..."	
"Burp"	Ad Council/ Big Brothers, Big Sisters	African American- big/little brother having burping contest at restaurant- "You have to have to be a perfect role model to be a big brother"	:30
"Office"	Ad Council/ Big Brothers, Big Sisters	White—set in office, big brother little brother throwing pencils at ceiling- "You don't have to teach algebra to be a big brother"	:30
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"Stare"	Ad Council/ Big Brothers, Big Sisters	White- set in restaurant, female version, staring contest—"you don't have to be..."	:30
"Gum"	Ad Council/ Big Brothers, Big Sisters	African American— bubble gum bubble blowing, bubble pops	:30
"Gum"	Ad Council/ Big Brothers, Big Sisters	African American— bubble gum bubble blowing, bubble pops	:15
"Blackboard"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Couple fighting—she's a teacher when she goes into her classroom he's written I'm sorry all over the chalkboards—marriage first	:60
"Story Time"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Little girl repeatedly asking her father to read her a story. No always the answer, He tells her to ask mom and she says "mommy, can daddy read to me?"	:60
"Eansie Weansie"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Man at work in factory setting, gets a call, sings Eansie Weansie Spider to his little girl on phone	:60
"Answering Machine"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	African American man playing with his little boys as a friend leaves a message on the machine trying to persuade him to play golf	:60
"Cupcake Girls"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Little girls at a tea party going to have cupcakes, not enough for all so they share	:60
"Now More Than Ever"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Various shots of families: "Families...Isn't it about time?"	:30
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"Now More Than Ever"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Various shots of families: "Families...Isn't it about time?"	:15
"Now More Than Ever"	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Various shots of families: "Families...Isn't it about time?"	:10
"Innocence"	Drug Free PA	Targets Parents—These innocent looking objects may be a sign your kid is doing Ecstasy. (lollipop, certain other items)	:20 :30
"Threats"	Drug Free PA	Targets Parents: talk to your kids about drugs, everybody else is.	:30
"URL-Marijuana"	Drug Free PA	Targets Parents: to know more about marijuana, visit this web site...	:10

"The Facts"	Drug Free PA	Targets Teens—a look inside a meth lab, "what you don't see, is what you get"	:20
"Kidnapped"	Church of Jesus Christ of Laturday Saints	Family kidnaps dad to try and get him to go camping and spend some time with them.	:60 :45 :30
"Missing"		Dad on cell phone saying how he won't make the big game—sees missing posters all over streets looking for home. "Have you seen our dad?"	:60 :45 :30
ISSUE: SAFETY			
"Woman"	National Safety Council/ Wireless Phone Industry	Woman delivering message about car phone safety when driving	:20
"Woman"	National Safety Council/ Wireless Phone Industry	Woman delivering message about car phone safety when driving	:30
"Woman"	National Safety Council/ Wireless Phone Industry	Woman delivering message about car phone safety when driving	:60
"Industry Spokesperson-CEO"	National Safety Council/ Wireless Phone Industry	CEO of National Safety Council delivering message on cellular phone safety when driving	:20
"Industry Spokesperson-CEO"	National Safety Council/ Wireless Phone Industry	CEO of National Safety Council delivering message on cellular phone safety when driving	:30
"Industry Spokesperson-CEO"	National Safety Council/ Wireless Phone Industry	CEO of National Safety Council delivering message on cellular phone safety when driving	:60
"Home Food Safety... It's in Your Hands"		How to prevent you family from getting sick due to the mishandling of food.	:60 :30

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES . . . JANUARY

1/08/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Sophia Wharton

NUISANCE TRASH

Nuisance garbage in cities across the region is nothing new but there are different rules in different municipalities. Sophia Wharton reports on why there are differences and what they are.

1:34 – Package

Mike Grandinetti – Code & Health inspector

1/08/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

J-NET

Police in Centre County are among those across the state using a hi-tech system to access criminal background information. The J-Net program cuts down the amount of time to run checks and improves communications with other agencies. That may make it a super valuable tool and worth the money expended for it.

:39 – SOT/VO

Lt. Drew Clemson – Ferguson Township Police

1/10/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Jane Watrel

PROTECTING YOUR HOME

The FBI is warning Americans that crimes like burglary and theft are on the rise. But there are ways to keep your home from becoming a target. Jane Watrel reports on taking a greater responsibility for your own personal security.

1:27 – Package

Chuck Pennington – Homeowner

Jay Stuck – ADT Security Services

Steve Borchardt – National Sheriff's Association

1/13/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Gary Sinderson

ROBBERIES / DRUG PROBLEM

A series of robberies in the Centre County area is related to a growing drug problem. The convenience stores are easy targets and stolen cigarettes can be traded straight up on the black market for heroin and other drugs. Gary Sinderson reports.

:40 – Package

1/14/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Sophia Wharton

SIGNS OF CHILD ABUSE

Professionals like doctors or schoolteachers who work with children every day are required by law to report suspected child abuse. As Sophia Wharton reports, that initial assessment doesn't always mean a child is in danger, but it is safer to take note of the signs and take action.

1:46 – Package

Bezzi White – Cambria County Youth Serv.

Dr. Matt Masiello – Pediatrician

1/15/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Gary Sinderson

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Animal cruelty cases have been on the rise, leading to stiffer penalties for those convicted. Those penalties have come about due to State legislators becoming more concerned about the increases in the number of cases being reported. Gary Sinderson reports.

1:00 – Package

Fred Metzger – Veterinarian

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES JANUARY

1/16/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Sophia Wharton

JAIL CONVERSION

Across the region, jails are getting more and more crowded. But those with extra space are finding that they can make money for their county by housing out-of-county prisoners. Sophia Wharton explains how the Bedford County jail is trying to cash in and asking if there are drawbacks to the plan.

1:25 – Package

Gordan Diehl – Bedford County Sheriff

David Thompson – Bedford Commissioner

1/20/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

CAR SCAM

Do you think you know what the biggest car scam is? It involves a device that is meant to protect your family in a crash, your airbag. Airbag fraud is hard to detect and police are warning buyers of used cars to have your mechanics take a look before you buy.

:42 – SOT/VO

Kim Hazelbaker – Highway Loss Data Institute

Rich Guerain – Carfax.com

1/27/03, 11 PM, Monday Mark Allen

NEW POLICE CHIEF

A familiar face has been chosen to lead the Johnstown Police Department. That department has been plagued with problems from the conduct of the chief to the conduct of the officers. But the new chief is confident that the department has turned the corner. Mark Allen reports.

1:43 – Package

Anthony Pinizzotto – Councilman

Benny Britt – Councilman

Jeff Silka – City manager

Chief Craig Foust – Johnstown Police Dept.

1/30/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

DRUG SWEEP

A four-month investigation has paid off for the Blair County Drug Task Force as over forty drug violators were arrested. Most were involved in the use or sale of heroin, which police say has become a huge problem in Blair County. The number of people getting treated for heroin use there is higher than the number being treated for alcohol abuse. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:10 – Package

Dave Gorman – District attorney

Randy Feathers – Attorney General's office

NBC: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / LAW ISSUES JANUARY

Nightly News

Thursday, January 9

Nightly News examines protecting children from registered sexual offenders. The reports looks at how, in some states, the laws may not go far enough. Also, is the law being enforced?

Nightly News

Friday, January 31

Nightly News examines identity theft. The number of incidents doubled last year, and it can take years for victims to recover. How can it be prevented?

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES. . . FEBRUARY

2/5/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Dave Zafris

GAS DRIVE-OFFS

Driving off without paying at the pump could cost someone their driver's license. A new law also increases fines for offenders. The crime costs Pennsylvania gas stations up to 7 million dollars a year and is now getting more costly for the offenders. Dave Zafris reports.

:54 - Package

Josh Jackson - BCO Assist. Manager

2/6/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Thursday Dave Zafris

CHURCH SEX ABUSE

A group of men from this region say they were abused by area priests when they were altar boys. Now they are filing lawsuits against the Altoona-Johnstown Catholic Diocese and those 2 priests involved. Dave Zafris reports on the allegations.

1:40 - Package

Jeff Lafferty - Claims he was abused

Brian Gergely - Claims molestation

Kevin Hoover - Claims molestation

2/6/03, 5 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

PRISON WORK PROGRAM

Putting prison inmates to work in Centre County is proving to be quite an economic boost. Instead of being inactive behind bars, those inmates who don't pose a serious threat to the community are put to work outside of the prison. The prison is advocating the program for other facilities.

:37 - SOT/VO

David Immel - Centre County Prison Warden

2/7/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Gary Sinderson

FEEDING THE HABIT

Police throughout our region continue to deal with a rising crime wave that they say is directly related to increased heroin use. It is costing all of us money in tax dollars that go for added funding for police and court costs, along with drug rehab programs. Gary Sinderson reports on the heroin impact.

1:40 - Package

Brad Lunsford - District magistrate

Lt. Drew Clemson - Ferguson Twp. Police

Mike Graybill - Counselor

2/7/03, 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

The terror alert has been raised to orange, the 2nd highest alert there is. Does it have any impact on our region? The awareness level has been raised but for most, it's business as usual.

:46 - SOT/VO

Ron Springer - Cambria County EMA Director

2/7/03, 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

TERROR ALERT

How does the upgraded alert have people in our region feeling and responding?

:34 - SOT/VO

Adam Hall - Holsopple

Alex Menniti - Johnstown

Blake Raab - Tire Hill

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES. . . FEBRUARY

2/7/03, 6 PM, Friday Dave Zafris

CHILD MOLESTATION

A day after five men have filed suit against the Altoona-Johnstown Catholic Diocese over alleged child abuse, we examine the issue of child molestation. An expert in child psychology says sexual abuse can stay with children for the rest of their lives. Dave Zafris reports on this devastating crime against children.

1:40 – Package

Dr. Richard Bennett – Child Psychologist

Jeff Lafferty – Claims he was molested

2/10/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Mark Allen

TELEMARKETER PROSECUTION

Thousands of people have signed up for the State's do not call list for telemarketers. However, some telemarketers are still calling. Now prosecutors are ready to go after them. Mark Allen reports.

:50 – Package

Barry Creany – Assistant Attorney General

Some people in Jefferson County are worried about their school closing. Punxsutawney School District is considering closing 3 of its elementary schools because of budget concerns. Dave Zafris reports on residents' concerns.

2/11/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

MEYERSDALE POLICE

They tabled the issue once, and now it has been tabled again. Council members in Meyersdale are still considering laying-off a 2nd police officer. Tempers are flaring as residents and businessmen plead to retain the full-time officer. Mark Allen reports.

1:17 – Package

Jon Barkman – Police Attorney

Bill Forrest – Council member

2/12/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Brigitte Langmade

ENDING CHILD ABUSE

New evidence suggests that child abuse can be completely wiped out. Experts say it wouldn't take much more money, just a little extra effort. Brigitte Langmade reports.

1:30 – Package

Michelle Collins – National Center for Missing Children

Victor Vieth – National Center for Child Abuse

2/13/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Dave Zafris

HEROIN: EASY TO GET

The heroin epidemic in West Central Pennsylvania is real and deadly. The number of overdoses is increasing every day in every neighborhood. Just how easy is it for your children to buy? Dave Zafris reports.

3:33 – Package

Debbie Fowler – Carrolltown

Robert Johnson – PA State Trooper

Agent Randy Feathers – Attorney General's Office

Virgil Woolley – N.D.I.C.

Dave Gorman – Blair County D.A.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES. . . FEBRUARY

2/13/03, 5 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

CLEARFIELD PRISON PROJECT

Federal and state authorities continue to negotiate on the proposal to build a privately operated federal prison in Clearfield County. The project started in 1999 but came to a halt over jurisdiction issues. State law was not clear on privately operated prisons. But recently, a breakthrough appears to be coming.

:46 – SOT/VO

Sen. Jake Corman – (R) Centre County

2/13/03, 5 PM, Thursday Gary Sinderson

CAMPUS DRUG ACTIVITY

Heroin may be the drug of the moment in our region, but it is not the drug of choice on college campuses. Penn State University is seeing many students using marijuana and cocaine. Gary Sinderson reports on campus drug use.

1:25 – Package

Dwight Smith – PSU Police Services

2/13/03, 11 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft is a growing crime. An employer advisory council meeting has brought that crime in to the spotlight cautioning people on how simple oversights can cause major financial difficulties when they leave themselves open to identity theft. Natasha McBroom reports.

2:00 – Package

Michael McGeehan – State representative

Julia Brulia – Bedford Co. E.A.C. Chair

Officer McGarvey – State Police

Ted Harhai – State representative

2/24/03, 6 / 11 PM, Monday Mark Allen

OPERATION PIPE DREAMS

A Johnstown business was busted today for selling illegal drug paraphernalia. It is just one of many who were indicted nationwide in "Operation Pipe Dreams. Mark Allen reports on the crackdown aimed at stopping those who thrive from drug users misery.

1:00 – Package

John Ashcroft – Attorney General

2/26/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Regina Miller

HANDGUN SALES

Will a limit on legal handgun sales help stop the black-market sale of illegal guns? The anti-gun group Ceasefire thinks so, but what do people in our area think? Regina Miller reports on the reaction.

1:40 – Package

Bob Grimminger – Bob's Army/Navy Store

Sarah May Clarkson – Gun control advocate

***DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW
FEBRUARY***

Dr. Phil **2/28/03**

Host: Dr. Phil McGraw

Dr. Phil talks with folks in one town who have to deal with a child sex offender living in their midst. He has fulfilled his prison obligation, but residents don't want him in their neighborhood. Dr. Phil examines the issue of rehabilitation for sex offenders and what kind of compromise can be reached in situations like this.

Show #: 1124 Syndicator: Paramount / Kingworld

***DRUG ABUSE & CRIME/ PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES
FEBRUARY***

HEROIN: NOT EVEN ONCE

**Thursday, 2/13/03 7 – 8 p.m. &
Saturday, 2/22/03 1 – 2 pm**

This one-hour special report was produced by Channel 6 News in cooperation with the Conemaugh Health System. The report is a compelling, emotional, and frightening examination of heroin use in Western Pennsylvania. The report included discussion with law enforcement officers on the crime that is associated with the abuse of this drug and the growing rate of addiction among teens and young adults. There were also Interviews with addicts who described the ease of access to the drug and the progression of addiction. They also provide insight into the treatment for the addiction, an extremely difficult and many times unsuccessful process. A non-traditional faith-based treatment center in Missouri is profiled because several young addicts from our region have succeeded in treatment there. Finally, parents and loved ones of those who have died as a result of heroin overdoses describe their anguish and heart-felt desire that no other families suffer the loss that they have had to endure due to this deadly drug.

The 1 hour program was hosted by news anchor Marty Radovanic.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES . . . MARCH

3/3/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Jon Meyer

DRIVERS LICENSING SCAM

At a time when the Homeland Security Department is trying to track foreigners in this country, investigators have discovered a scam being operated at the PennDOT License Center in Ebensburg. It's the second time that employees at that center have been involved in issuing phony identification and licenses to foreigners. And it is quite a concern in this age of terrorism. Jon Meyer reports.

1:11 – Package

Mike Fisher – Attorney General

Rebecca Bickley – PennDOT

3/5/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Jon Meyer

SEX OFFENDER INFO-PHOTOS

A Supreme Court ruling has cleared the way for parents to easily find out if sex offenders live nearby. The court says it is legal for states to put photos and information about sex crime convicts on-line. But in Pennsylvania, state laws and court challenges limit that action considerably. Jon Meyers reports.

:52 – Package

David Tulowitski – Cambria County District Attorney

3/12/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

CABLE THEFT

Cable theft is a problem across the country. What you may not realize is that it affects every cable subscriber out there. Many people don't understand that it is the same as walking into a store and stealing an item. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:25 – Package

Karen Broach – Charter Communications

Trooper David White – State Police

3/13/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Sophia Wharton

KEEPING KIDS SAFE

The abduction of a child is a parent's worst fear. Safe recovery of the child as in the Elizabeth Smart case is an exception. So how can you prevent this crime from happening to your family? Sophia Wharton reports.

1:10 – Package

Cpl. Wayne Sheppard – Pennsylvania State Police

Ed Smart – Victim's father

3/17/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Gary Sinderson

ILLEGAL DUMPING

The warmer weather and the resulting meltdown have uncovered what is in some areas, an unsightly mess. As Gary Sinderson reports, appliances and other trash that is illegally dumped are not only an eyesore, but also a danger.

1:28 – Package

Clarissa Bowersox – Lives near trash site

Ted Onufrak – Centre County Waste Authority

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES . . . MARCH

3/19/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

ELECTRONIC MONITORING

In trying to ease prison-overcrowding expenses, Centre County officials are expanding their electronic monitoring program. They believe that, especially with regards to juvenile offenders, the monitoring system offers a viable option.

:33 - SOT/VO

Ron Millward - Centre County Probation Dept.

3/20/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMEWATCH

It's a battle that every community faces, the war against crime. Can senior citizens make a difference? They are usually the victims of crime. What can they do to help communities? Natasha McBroom reports.

1:35 - Package

Mary Wolf - Concerned citizen

Tyrone Dickey - Pittsburgh Police Dept.

Tina Cunningham - Blair Senior Services

3/24/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

HEALTH CARE FRAUD

More than 13 billion dollars was lost last year because of health care fraud. Is it possible for regular people to detect fraud and prevent loss?

:31 - SOT/VO

Jennifer Hogan - Fraud educator

3/24/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Sophia Wharton

POLICE / CITIZEN RELATIONSHIP

Over the past decade, police in Johnstown have experienced incident upon incident that seem to underscore a bad relationship with the community. The new police chief and city leaders are taking what they term as "positive steps" to help citizens make their complaints more easily and address problems before they spiral out of control. Sophia Wharton reports on the new plan.

1:28 - Package

Jeff Silka - City manager

Benny Britt - Public Safety Chair

Craig Foust - Police Chief

3/26/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

NEW PRISON AGREEMENT

Now that the green light has been given to build a new private prison in the Moshannon Valley, not everyone is happy. Opponents are concerned for the safety of residents around the site.

:41 - SOT/VO

Camille George - State Representative

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: DRUG ABUSE & OTHER CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM / LAW ISSUES . . . MARCH

3/27/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

ILLEGAL MUSIC

More than 60 million Americans, many of them teens, download copyrighted music illegally on so-called "peer-to-peer" networks. So should parents step in? What message are they sending if they don't? Lisa Stofko reports.

2:05 – Package

Dr. Carol Drummond – Counselor

Noah Pine – Age 18

Avi Gelfond – Age 14

Jonathan Morse – Age 18

3/28/03, 6 / 11 PM, Friday Mark Allen

LOCAL BURGLARIES

It's an old message, but it is one that local police want you to remember: lock your doors and keep your wallet or purse under your control. You'll keep criminals from stealing your cash and your identity. The losses last year were substantial, and 80 percent of crime handled in Richland Township, our major retail area, was heroin related.

:38 – SOT/VO

Kevin Lehman – Richland Township Police

3/31/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Natasha McBroom

JUVENILE VIOLENCE

We've all heard of cases where workers are assaulted at group homes. But when juveniles are the ones doing it, workers must walk a fine line. How are staff members trained to handle these situations? Natasha McBroom reports.

1:24 – Package

John Dibert – Director of Education

3/31/03, 5 PM, Monday Diana Gonzalez

COLD MEDICINE ABUSE

Most of you worry about your kids experimenting with marijuana or using heroin. But you may want to check your medicine cabinet for the latest way for kids to get high. Diana Gonzalez reports.

1:38 – Package

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES JANUARY

1/02/03, 6 / 11 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

BACK TO SCHOOL

Students in Somerset went back to school today after a lengthy break due to an ongoing contract dispute between teachers and the school board. Teachers were forced to return to school today in order to complete the school year on time, but they are no closer to a contract. What will happen next?

:40 – SOT/VO

Lonnie Luna – PA State Education Association

John Coleman – School Board President

1/03/03, 6 / 11 PM, Friday Alison Burns

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

Schools in our community and across the country are under pressure from the Federal government to be more accountable for student progress. The No Child Left Behind Act passed last year by Congress calls for higher standards and better results. But a new report shows that the Federal government may not be doing enough to help schools meet the new guidelines. Alison Burns reports.

1:10 – Package

Jack Jennings – Center on Education Policy

1/06/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

RURAL DISTRICTS AND COLLEGE

Too often, in predominantly rural school districts, many students choose not to go to college. It's a trend educators would like to turn around, and they're looking to the best and brightest for help. Lisa Stofko reports.

1:17 – Package

Gary Walstrom – Glendale High School principal

Jennifer Porter – Guidance counselor

1/08/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

PENNS VALLEY SCHOOL

The fate of Rebersburg Elementary School is still a great concern to parents in the Penns Valley School District. They say they are disappointed at the way the school board is handling the issue. There is a vote scheduled for proposed expansion later in the month.

:45 – SOT/VO

1/09/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

PENNS VALLEY UPROAR

Those living in the Penns Valley School District got a surprise in their mailboxes. The district is asking for their opinions on the planned new school building project versus the expansion project. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:02 – Package

1/10/03, 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

FRAT COMPLAINTS

Several Penn State fraternities have run into trouble in recent months on underage drinking charges. In an effort to stem such problems, Penn State's Board of Trustees recently approved changes that give administrators more power in the fraternity system. Will that help them deal with this problem?

:39 – SOT/VO

Lance Marshall – Centre County Prosecutor

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES JANUARY

1/13/03, 11 PM, Monday Natasha McBroom

PUNXSUTAWNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Parents in the Punxsutawney area are in an uproar, and school board members are listening to pleas to keep some area schools open. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:24 – Package

Dr. T. Frantz – Superintendent

1/15/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

PENNS VALLEY UPROAR

The future of a Centre County Elementary is part of a long awaited decision that will be made at tonight's Penns Valley School board meeting. The vote will determine whether the district will move forward with its 22 million dollar proposal. Natasha McBroom reports on the controversy.

1:29 – Package

Terri McNitt – Penns Valley

Dr. Schoonover – Superintendent

1/15/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

PENNS VALLEY VOTE

A million dollar proposal to renovate some of its buildings and close one elementary school has been halted for now in the Penns Valley School District. How the district will resolve its building problems is not known, but it is a happy night for Rebersburg parents and residents. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:14 – Package

Stephanie Ironside – Rebersburg PTG

Tom Snyder – Rebersburg PTG

Terri McNitt – Penns Valley S.O.S.

B. Allan Schoonover – Superintendent

1/16/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Dave Zafris

EDUCATION REPORT / BLAIR COUNTY

Blair County schools are in trouble. That's the message from an education watchdog group called "Good Schools Pennsylvania." As Dave Zafris reports, something is wrong because students are under-performing in math and reading.

1:44 – Package

Rabbi Burt Schuman – Believes schools need funding

1/16/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

BIG VS SMALL SCHOOLS

Is it better to send kids to larger schools or try to maintain schools even if they are older and small? That is the prime issue in the Penns Valley School District in the future of the building plans. Are small schools a valuable asset?

:46 – SOT/VO

Keith Bierly – Centre County Commissioner

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES . . . JANUARY

1/16/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

DROP OUT RATES FOR COLLEGE

By this time of year, millions of high school seniors have applied to college or are about to. Regardless of which college or university they attend, when they get there, they may be in for quite a surprise. Who will stay and who will drop out and why? Lisa Stofko reports.

1:53 – Package

Dr. Sherrie Nist – Professor

1/17/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Dave Zafris

POLICE IN SCHOOLS

Should police officers be in our schools? One area school district is trying to strengthen security by hiring officers. But should police officers play a regular role in schools? Dave Zafris shows you the local picture.

1:39 – Package

Jack Reilly – Altoona Schools Security

1/17/03, 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

PENN STATE APPLICATIONS

Despite the increasing costs of higher education, the number of people applying to attend Penn State is rising at a record rate. Why?

:39 – SOT/VO

Graham Spanier – Penn State president

1/20/03, 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

LEARNING DISABLED

What is the biggest part of having a learning disability? For many kids, it's not learning to read. It's getting back their self-confidence. Lisa Stofko reports.

1:57 – Package

Susan Barton – Education consultant

1/21/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Tuesday Dave Zafris

ALTOONA SCHOOL PLANS

Altoona might combine its two Junior High Schools into one. The city has two junior highs for over seventy years. But school officials say the plan is only in the beginning stages. Dave Zafris reports on whether the plan is popular in the district with residents and staff.

1:35 – Package

Randy Karle – Would like new school

Josh Colasant – Merger good idea

Tom Bradley – Altoona School District

1/21/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

BELLEFONTE SCHOOL RENOVATIONS

There may be some renovations in the future for the Bellefonte Area School District. School board members discussed ideas about furthering education and uniting the community with new buildings. They believe the impact would be worth the costs.

:41 – SOT/VO

Paul Taylor – Architect

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES JANUARY

1/24/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Natasha McBroom

POLICE IN SCHOOLS

Most everyone in the Clearfield area would like to see police officers in the middle and high school. But finding the money to fund that is really becoming a problem. Natasha McBroom reports why.

1:44 – Package

Dr. William Wunder – Superintendent

Jill Owens – Parent

Verlee Parks – Parent

Robert Ardery – Parent

1/24/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Lisa Stofko

STRESSING THE POSITIVE

When a student's behavior crosses the line, is aggressive or intimidating, that's you're your school has to step in. As Lisa Stofko reports, using a new policy that accentuates the positive, one Cambria County school district is making great strides in eliminating negative behaviors.

2:14 – Package

Erik Espe – 5th grade

Kurstin Whorl – 4th grade

Dr. Ronald Rufano – Principal

Tricia Murin – Elementary school counselor

Tom Nagy – Music teacher

1/27/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

DRESS CODE

An area school district is enforcing a dress code that some parents call discriminating against their children. Facial piercings, spiked jewelry, and heavy chains are prohibited as safety hazards. Jon Meyer reports.

1:20 – Package

Brenda Sabo – Parent

William Rushin – Superintendent

Renee Roble – C.V. Freshman

1/27/03, 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

ADULT CARTOONS?

The hottest after-school clubs across the country have teenagers in a frenzy over a type of Japanese cartoon. But is it more explicit than educational? Lisa Stofko reports.

1:55 - Package

Matthew Hall – Japanese Teacher

Michael Sosa – Age 17

1/28/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

SPORTS PERSPECTIVE

More than 40 million American kids play in some kind of organized sports. While some do it just for fun, many dream of making it big. The reality is that only a small fraction will achieve the stardom they seek. Should kids know this going in? Lisa Stofko reports.

1:37 – Package

Michael Elzey – Father

Rick Vanhaveren – Licensed psychologist

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER
EDUCATION ISSUES JANUARY***

1/29/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

NED'S HEAD BOOKS

An area author's works have been made an official part of the way the Greater Johnstown schools teach. The "Ned's Head" series has been made a part of the curriculum. Officials say they reach elementary school children of all ages.

:42 - SOT/VO

Dr. John Jubas - Greater Johnstown Schools

1/29/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

POLICE IN SCHOOLS?

Clearfield Area School District is still considering whether to bring police officers into their schools. At a meeting tonight, residents and administrators talked about a plan that would bring uniformed officers into the schools.

:43 - SOT/VO

John Weaver - Parent opposed to the idea

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES FEBRUARY

2/3/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Sophia Wharton

SICK SCHOOLS

Kids will often complain that they are sick of school. But are they actually telling the truth? Across the U.S., a growing number of schools are really making students ill. Sophia Wharton reports on Sick School Syndrome and what the government is doing to fix it.

2:40 – Package

Judy Sozanowski - Parent

April Sozanowski – Sick School victim

Mary Smith – EPA

Mary Levine – Principal

2/3/03, 5:30 / 6 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

SCHOOL COUNSELING PROJECT

Some area school kids are taking a unique approach in a nationwide counseling project. Ferndale Elementary students are making posters to be shared with students in neighboring districts in an effort to expand caring and understanding.

:40 – SOT/VO

Eileen Zankey – Ferndale counselor

2/4/03, 11 PM, Monday Dave Zafris

POLICE IN SCHOOLS

The Clearfield Area School District is hiring police officers to patrol its hallways. The board voted unanimously tonight to approve the plan. Dave Zafris reports on the controversial decision that the board hopes will make the schools safer.

1:00 – Package

William Wunder – School superintendent

2/5/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

WINTER CHILL

Cold temperatures this winter have heating systems at schools throughout the area working overtime. At Greater Johnstown, a rule has been established that if temperatures fall below the upper 60's, students may wear their coats.

:36 – SOT/VO

Dr. Jerry Zahorchak – Johnstown superintendent

2/5/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

FUNDING RURAL SCHOOLS

More and more rural school districts in Pennsylvania are having to do more with less, sometimes a lot less. State funding for schools is down 20 percent, but the costs of operating schools are not down. Someone has to pay and it appears to be property owners.

:43 – SOT/VO

Gary Singel – Superintendent / Shanksville

2/10/03, 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

RANDOM DRUG TESTS

For nearly a decade, it's been legal for high schools to conduct random drug testing. Is it a method that works to reduce the use of drugs by students? How effective is it? Lisa Stofko reports.

1:59 – Package

Peyton Fatherree – Drug counselor

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES . . . FEBRUARY

2/11/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Dave Zafris

BOOSTER SEATS IN SCHOOL VANS

A new booster seat law that takes effect this month is forcing schools to purchase new equipment. Many schools are being hit with this expense that they didn't budget for. Dave Zafris reports on what school officials and parents have to say about the new law.

1:10 – Package

Angela Ashwood – In favor of the law

Tom Bradley – Altoona School District

2/13/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

SCHOLARSHIP SCAMS

The cost of the four-year college education has shot up more than 600% in the past 30 years. So what is a parent to do? Lisa Stofko reports, that while it is good to look for scholarship money, it is important to be careful.

1:59 – Package

Richard Pfaff – Financial Aid

2/14/03, 6 PM, Friday Gary Sinderson

PSU FUNDING / TUITION

In reducing the state budget deficit, Gov. Rendell is cutting state funding for Temple, Pitt, and Penn State Universities. It fuels greater concerns about another round of sizeable tuition increases for the next year. Gary Sinderson reports.

1:20 – Package

Christina Pebble – Penn State student

Bill Mahon – Penn State Vice-President

Charis Kready – Penn State student

Aida Utah – Penn State student

2/19/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Brigitte Langmade

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

When you send your tax dollars off to fund federal education programs, you think that the money goes towards a better education for your child. But is your child making better grades because of these programs. Brigitte Langmade reports on this education investigation.

2:10 – Package

Tom Schatz – Citizens against Government Waste

Rod Paige – Education Secretary

Michael Pons – National Education Association

2/21/03, 11 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

SOMERSET TEACHER STATUS

Like most schools in the region, the Somerset district has had to cancel several days of class this year because of heavy snow. When you add in the two-week strike by teachers earlier this year, the end of the school year is deep into June. But that may get worse, because Somerset teachers may hit the picket line again this spring.

:38 – SOT/VO

John Coleman – Somerset Area

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER
EDUCATION ISSUES . . . FEBRUARY***

2/25/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

BULLY WITNESSES

Experts say schoolyard bullying causes pain stress depression and isolation. But those who are targeted by bullies aren't the only victims. Lisa Stofko reports on the effect on the witnesses.
1:58 – Package

2/27/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

FUTURE CRIMINALS

Schoolyard bullies can cause long-lasting pain to students they torment. While experts believe that they should be punished, they also think the bully needs help to change. Lisa Stofko reports.

2:01 – Package

Nam Nguien – Age 19

Dr. D. Fenstermaker – Psychologist

***COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES
FEBRUARY***

Dr. Phil **2/27/03**

Host: Dr. Phil McGraw

One of the greatest traumas of childhood is dealing with bullies. An estimated 150,000 American students miss school every day because of bullies. This fear has become the third leading cause of suicide among teenagers. Dr. Phil examines what a bully is and what kids and parents can do to protect themselves from senseless school terrorism.

Show #: 1107 Syndicator: Paramount / Kingworld

***NBC: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES
FEBRUARY***

Today

Monday, February 17

The nation's school children come up woefully short on national tests to measure knowledge of American history and civics. Less than 25% of students performed at the proficient level. Lynne Cheney, wife of Vice President Dick Cheney will deliver the keynote speech on Monday at the White House Forum called "We The People" a program to promote the teaching of American History and civics. Mrs. Cheney discusses the topic.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES . . . MARCH

3/4/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

COLLEGE BUDGET WOES

While details are being sorted out from Gov. Rendell's budget, college administrators aren't expecting any sizeable increase in their state funding. So another round of tuition increases is in sight.

:37 – SOT/VO

Dr. Graham Spanier – Penn State President

3/5/03, 6 / 11 PM, Wednesday Mark Allen

SOMERSET FINAL OFFERS

The Teachers' Union and the School Board in Somerset have traded final offers and are now heading toward non-binding arbitration. One of the major issues appears to be about a co-pay for health care. Mark Allen reports.

1:41 – Package

John Coleman – School Board President

Jon Critchfield – Union President

3/7/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

SECURING OUR SCHOOLS

Our schools will now be able to protect themselves from a terror attack thanks to a new plan from Washington. Schools will be able to draw money from a 30 million dollar fund to improve their emergency response plans. There is also a new web site to guide schools when dealing with disasters.

:41 – SOT/VO

Tom Ridge – Homeland Security

3/7/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Carole Anne Riddell

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

Getting into the college of your choice is harder than ever these days. The competition is fierce, causing good students to pay for tutors and specialized instruction. Carole Anne Riddell reports on how students are battling for every advantage they can get on entrance exams and the importance of these tests.

1:58 – Package

Allison Polland – Going to college

Sarah Yardeni – High School senior

Aaron Pallas – Professor

Justin Serrano – Kaplan Test Prep

Meghan Gray – College S.T.E.P.S.

Stefanie Pichardo – High School senior

3/7/03, 11 PM, Friday Brigette Langmade

SAFER SCHOOLS

In the age of terrorism, how safe are your children at school? There's a Federal effort underway to keep them safe. Brigette Langmade reports from Washington.

1:27 – Package

Sec. Tom Ridge – Homeland Security

Sec. Rod Paige – Education Secretary

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES MARCH

3/10/03, 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

TEACHER BULLY

When we think of bullying, we think of kids beating up or making fun of other kids. But there is a facet of bullying that is often overlooked. What do you do when the bully is the teacher? Lisa Stofko reports.

1:53 – Package

Dr. Olga Jarrett – Professor of Education

3/18/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

TEACHER'S CONTRACT

Another round of arbitration has commenced in the Somerset Area School District. Representatives of the teachers' union and the school board are trying to bring an end to the 3-year old dispute. Mark Allen reports.

:43 – Live

3/18/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

TEST SCORES UP

According to the Higher Education Research Institute, today's high school graduates spent less time studying than any class in the past 15 years. Yet, their grade point averages hit an all-time high. Are students getting smarter? Not exactly. Lisa Stofko reports.

1:52 – Package

Craig Savage – Educator

Annie Van Beuningen – Age 16

3/20/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

LEARNING DISABILITY

If your child doesn't like division and fractions, they're not alone. Millions of kids dread math class, but some have good reason. Lisa Stofko reports on a not-so-well-known learning disability that affects math skills.

1:57 – Package

Armenta Stalworth – Age 12

Dr. Joan Teach – Director of Lullwater School

3/21/03, 11 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

ROOM & BOARD INCREASE

Room and board rates are going up at Penn State to the tune of five percent. The ever-increasing expenses are drawing increasing questions about an affordable education. Even lawmakers are starting to question the increases.

:36 – SOT/VO

Sen. Jake Corman – (R) Centre County

3/24/03, 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

PUBLIC VS PRIVATE

Do children who attend private schools get a better education than those enrolled in public schools? As Lisa Stofko reports, the answer depends less on academics and more on economics..

2:19 – Package

Brenda Dyckman – Principal

Kenny Peterman – Age 13

Dr. Martin Carnoy – Stanford University

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES MARCH

3/26/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Gary Sinderson

EXPULSED STUDENT IN BOWL GAME

Why was a Penn State football player who was temporarily expelled from the university allowed to play in the January 1st bowl game? That's just one of the controversies surrounding Anwar Phillips. Gary Sinderson reports.

1:00 – Package

3/27/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

BUDGET IMPACT

There's a new threat to state funding for Penn State, Pitt, and two other state-related universities as Governor Rendell makes their budgets a political bargaining tool. The governor is threatening to hold appropriations money for the universities if his property tax cuts and education-spending plan aren't passed by July.

:45 – SOT/VO

Graham Spanier – Penn State President

***NBC: COLLEGE PROBLEMS & OTHER EDUCATION ISSUES
MARCH***

Today

Tuesday, March 18

As part of the continuing series TODAY's family...fun ways to learn about math and science. It's not just flash cards anymore, toy-makers have come up with some hands on ways to incorporate mathematical and scientific concepts into toys and games. Stephanie Oppenheim of toyportfolio.com stops by with her recommendations.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES JANUARY

1/01/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

ANTIBIOTICS ABUSE

Anti-biotics are suppose to help you get better when you're sick, not make you sick. But doctors say that can happen if you overuse anti-biotics. Sara Burget explains.

1:28 - Package

Matt Masiello - Chair, Pediatrics Dept. Conemaugh

1/02/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Mark Allen

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

Doctors all over the country are tired of feeling the pinch for malpractice insurance. Some are walking out on their practices. Governor Ed Rendell averted a walkout in Pennsylvania with a promise to work for two hundred and twenty millions dollars subsidy for doctors in the Keystone State. But will it work? Mark Allen reports.

1:00 - Package

J. Michael Moses - Orthopedic surgeon

Kathy Meckley - Altoona Hospital

1/01/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR CARE PROVIDERS

Following a rape in Centre County of a patient by her home health care worker, concerns of safety have been raised for those receiving health care in the home. What can be done to ensure safety? Natasha McBroom reports.

1:10 - Package

Teri Ilgen - Centre Home Care

Barry Creany - Consumer Protection

1/02/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Dr. Max Gomez

LOSING WEIGHT

Are you one of the millions of people planning to lose weight in the New Year? If so, experts say "think sleep." Dr. Max Gomez shows how losing sleep can keep you from losing weight.

1:31 - Package

Dr. Michael Thorpy - Neurologist

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES . . . JANUARY

1/02/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

DEPRESSION & GENDER

Studies show that girls are twice as likely as boys to suffer from depression. Why? Lisa Stofko reports on the answer.

1:53 – Package

Lauren Ellington – Age 15

Jake Ellington – Age 18

Dr. Nancy McGarrah – Psychologist

1/03/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Sara Burget

OSTEOPOROSIS

Osteoporosis is a condition where you lose your bone density. The disease affects millions of men and women. In the past, treatments either just slowed the disease down or stopped bone loss altogether. Now a new device is doing a lot more than just that for patients who suffer with the condition. Sara Burget reports.

1:28 – Package

Dr. Parley Madsen – Neurological surgery

1/07/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

CANCER AFTERAFFECTS

Within the next year, more than 9 thousand kids under the age of 15 will be diagnosed with cancer. More than 70 percent of them will survive. As Lisa Stofko reports, the road to recovery can be rough for the survivors.

2:02 – Package

Nicole Nunn – Cancer survivor

Lillian Meacham – Cancer survivor program

1/08/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Dr. Max Gomez

HIP REPLACEMENT

Whether it's because of pain, arthritis, or circulatory problems, a lot of people will undergo a hip replacement surgery. The new hips are lasting longer, but they are also being done at a younger age. Dr. Max Gomez reports on why, and how the surgery is turning into an outpatient procedure.

1:48 – Package

Sherry Lichtman – Hip replacement patient

Dr. Hartzband – Orthopedic surgeon

Doug Cook – Hip replacement patient

1/08/03, 6 / 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

40 & OVERWEIGHT

Are you 40 and overweight? The Latest research has some bad news for you. You're taking 3 to 14 years off your life. What can help? Not a diet, Dr. Bass believes they are ineffective for those who are extremely obese.

:48 – SOT/VO

Dr. Thomas Bass – Surgeon – Altoona Hospital

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES JANUARY

1/09/03, 5 PM, Thursday Dr. Max Gomez

OBESE KIDS AND DIABETES

Type 2 diabetes used to be found only in adults. But it is becoming epidemic in our children. That's because more and more kids are overweight. Dr. Max Gomez has more on how this is happening and how adult anti-diabetes drugs can help these kids stay healthy.

1:47 - Package

Dr. Paul Saenger - Pediatrician

Crystal Rodriguez - Has type 2 diabetes

Iris Jimenez - Crystal's aunt

1/10/03, 5 PM, Friday Sophia Wharton

NICOTINE VACCINE

Is there a way to keep your kids from starting smoking? Scientists may have come up with a way to stop your child's desire to start smoking. Sophia Wharton reports.

2:35 - Package

1/10/03, 11 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

BINGE DRINKING

The problem of binge drinking is not limited to college campuses. Nationwide, it is up 25 percent. One theory as to why is that children are being socialized to drink at an earlier age.

:41 - SOT/VO

Patty Karn - Altoona Hospital

1/13/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

WINTER SKIN

It's one sure sign that winter is here, that itchy dry skin. Don't ignore it; it can lead to those dreaded fine lines and wrinkles. It's the time you need to rehydrate your skin.

:37 - SOT/VO

Dr. Koleen Zimmerman - Dermatologist

1/13/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Sara Burget

SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

It's unexpected, sudden, and your baby may not show any symptoms that they have it. Yet many babies die from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome before their first birthdays. But as a parent, can you do something to stop it from happening? Sara Burget reports.

1:18 - Package

Nicole Heller - Mother

1/14/03, 5 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

MEDICARE

If you are over 65, chances are you rely on Medicare for your health care needs. How good is that care? A new government study shows that while it is improving, Medicare still has a long way to go. Pennsylvania is not on the bottom of the list as far as quality, but it is not near the top either.

:43 - SOT/VO

Stephen Jencks, MD - Centers for Medicare Services

1/14/03, 5 PM, Tuesday Ed Yeates

HEAT AS PAIN RELIEF

When you get an ache or pain, do you reach for relief with heat? A new study says that is not the help you need, just a cruel trick on your brain. Ed Yeates looks at the myth.

2:05 – Package

Dr. David Draper – Sports Medicine

Cindy Trowbridge – Physical Education

Lisa Jutte – Volunteer

1/14/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

OSTEOPOROSIS

The crippling disease of osteoporosis shows itself in old age, but the disease starts earlier. Lisa Stofko reports on why it is important to think about your bone health early.

2:05 – Package

Marisa Schneider – Competes in gymnastics

Dr. J. Olmedo – Sports Medicine

Sheila Schneider – Mother

1/15/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Deanna Lites

PERSONALITY DIET

If you're trying to lose weight, exercise and dieting may not be enough. Weight loss experts are now looking into diet plans that are tailored to your personality. Doctor Deanna Lites takes a look at the plan.

2:37 – Package

Peter Dwars – On personality diet

Carole Shifman – On personality diet

Dr. Robert Kushner – Diet author

1/16/03, 5 PM, Thursday Diana Gonzalez

HODGKIN'S STUDY

Cancer treatments are supposed to make you better. But chemotherapy that kills good and bad cells can sometimes do more harm than good. Now doctors are trying a less harmful approach. Diana Gonzalez reports.

1:42 – Package

Anthony Sanchez – Cancer patient

Hugo Fernandez, MD - Oncology

1/16/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Mark Allen

ELDERLY CARE SERVICES

The latest census numbers show more and more people are living longer. But an aging population means that the cost of providing health care is reaching new heights. Who is paying for all this? Mark Allen reports.

1:24 – Package

David Slat – Blair Senior Services

Alan Smith – Agency on Aging

1/17/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Patti Crosby

BETTER FOOD CHOICES

For kids, what they wear is far more important than what they eat. Kids don't spend a lot of time making food choices, and that's not good. Because better food choices means better health. Patti Crosby reports.

1:17 – Package

Heather Huffman – Dietician

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES . . . JANUARY

1/20/03, 5 PM, Monday Kimberly Kane

BABY ANTI-HISTAMINE

The number of young children in the U.S. with allergies is going up at an alarming rate. But that's not the only problem. There have been no clinically tested medications to help them until now. The FDA recently approved the first prescription anti-histamine for kids as young as six months. Kimberly Kane reports on a drug that is bringing relief to little ones with allergies, and their parents.

1:48 – Package

Jefferlyn Harper – Mother

Dr. Toby Enright – Allergist

1/20/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Mark Allen

FLU SEASON

Flu season has finally arrived in Pennsylvania, a little late this year. Health experts warn that a resident in Lycoming County was diagnosed with an influenza Type B and that it doesn't take long for the virus to spread across the State. Is it too late for a flu shot? Mark Allen reports.

:50 – Package

Suhail Rahhal, MD – Internal medicine

1/21/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Natasha McBroom

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

A forum in Centre County is tackling one of the nation's hottest issues, how to pay for the high cost of malpractice insurance and still be able to practice medicine. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:41 – Package

Dr. Jonathan Dranov – Guest speaker

Jeffrey Ratner – Centre Community Hospital

1/22/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Dr. David Marks

BOTOX/CARPAL TUNNEL

You know that Botox can help you get rid of wrinkles, but it may have a new use. It may soon be used to treat Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. Dr. David Marks reports.

1:50 – Package

Tatiana Radulescu – Patient

Dr. Marco Pappagallo – Neurologist

1/23/03, 5 PM, Thursday Dr. Deanna Lites

3D VIEW OF HEART

Three-dimensional medical scans have moved beyond uniting parents with their unborn child. They can now be used to save lives. Dr. Deanna Lites explains how this technology is helping heart surgeons in the operating room.

1:32 – Package

Dr. Roberto Lang – Cardiovascular diseases

1/23/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

LOCKS OF HAIR

Most kids want to fit in with others. But for 2 million children who have lost their hair due to an immune disorder, being bald makes them stand out like freaks. How can these kids be helped. Lisa Stofko reports.

1:58 – Package

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES JANUARY

1/27/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Sara Burget

KNEE SURGERY

If you have problems with your knee, doctors usually suggest a total knee replacement. But sometimes, even afterward you knee will continue to hurt. Doctors say there is now a solution. Sara Burget reports.

1:39 – Package

Lillian Hopson – Patient

1/29/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

BLOOD COLLECTION

Blood is always in need, but especially now. Dangerously low levels of blood are now occurring nationwide and statewide. That was the message from the Red Cross at their collection today in Bedford County.

:38 – SOT/VO

Jamie Glaken – American Red Cross

1/29/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

MEDIC ALERT

Your doctor's office may be getting more technological. That could mean more efficient and better treatment for you in the long run. Sara Burget explains the changes coming to your doctor's office.

1:25 – Package

Dr. Doug States – Family practice

1/29/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Alison Burns

SMALLPOX VACCINE

Tonight, the nation's health care workers are concerned that the small pox vaccine could harm more people than it helps. Alison Burns reports on the conflict that is arising as the vaccine begins distribution.

1:48 – Package

Dr. Lewis Bell – Philadelphia Childrens Hospital

James August – Union Leader

Dr. Julie Gerberding – CDC

1/30/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Sara Burget

SMALLPOX VACCINE

Healthcare workers will be among the first to get the smallpox vaccination. However, many hospitals across the nation have decided not to allow their workers to get the shot. Others are leaving it up to their employees. Sara Burget reports on what the medical community in our region is going to do with the vaccine.

1:53 – Package

Cathy Ware, R.N. – Washington County, Maryland

Dr. Louis Schenfeld – Infectious diseases, Conemaugh

Dr. Robert Brooks – Washington County Hospital

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES JANUARY

1/30/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

HOSPITAL BANKRUPTCY

Miner's Medical Center is restructuring and is seeking protection from its creditors. Construction projects in 1999 have thrown the hospital into over 11 million dollars in debt, but they say they have a plan to pay it back.

:48 - SOT/VO

Michael Lauf - Miner's President

1/30/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

ADHD DRUG

Nearly 2 million kids in the U.S. who are diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder use medicine to help them stay focused and calm. The problem with the medicine is the side effects. But there may soon be more options with less side effects. Lisa Stofko reports.

2:10 - Package

Kevin Clyde - Age 12

Lisa Freeman - Mother

Dr. Eric Fier - Psychiatrist

1/31/03, 5 PM, Friday Sara Burget

STROKE AND SALONS

Is there a connection between beauty salons and your risk of having a stroke? Doctors say yes. Sara Burget reports on what the connection is and the solution for the problem.

1:30 - Package

Dr. James Mazzula - Concerned physician

Robin Smathers - Beautician

1/31/03, 5:30, Friday Dave Zafris

RETIREMENT READY

Retirement is something many of us look forward to. But psychologists say it's important to plan for life after work, especially for people who are extremely devoted to their jobs. Dave Zafris tells us about the mental adjustment.

1:30 - Package

Barry Lee - Retiring from PennDOT

NBC – SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES JANUARY

Today

Friday, January 3

Dr. Mark Widome offers advice on how to avoid the certain stomach bugs during the winter months.

Nightly News

Friday, January 3

Nightly News examines the skyrocketing costs of medical malpractice insurance. Some states are passing reforms to combat the problem and make health care more affordable. What is the problem and how did it happen? NBC News examines the solutions.

Today

Monday, January 6

An interview with Dr. Charles Homer on a new fact sheet, "20 Tips to Help Prevent Medical Errors in Children" being released by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The fact sheet is designed to give parents basic information about what they can do to insure that their children are not the victims of a medical error.

Today

Monday, January 6

The January series, *New Year, New You*, continues with a segment on getting in shape. Fitness expert Stephanie Oakes talks about ways to get moving even if you don't want to go to the gym.

Nightly News

Tuesday, January 7

Nightly News examines the reasons for the enormous increase in deaths resulting from flu complications over the last few years. Who is most at risk, and what should you know to protect your family this winter?

Nightly News

Wednesday, January 8

Nightly News examines whether or not alcohol can be good for you. What does a new study say about the possibility of moderate drinking being good for your health?

Today

Friday, January 10

Personal trainer Bob Greene, best known for his work with Oprah Winfrey, talks about his newest book called: "Get With The Program: A Guide to Good Eating."

NBC – SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES . . . JANUARY

Today

Monday, January 20

As part of the continuing series, "TODAY'S Fitness," author and personal trainer Michael R. Eades talks about his book, "The Slow Burn Fitness Revolution: The Slow Motion Exercise That Will Change Your Body In 30 Minutes A Week."

Nightly News

Tuesday, January 21

Nightly News examines the costs of prescription drugs and why a major way to save money on medication may no longer be possible for thousands of senior citizens.

Today

Friday, January 24

The often controversial Dr. Robert Atkins, talks about his latest book called "Atkins for Life," and weighs in on how to achieve a healthy weight by using the Atkins Diet for life.

Today

Monday, January 27

On Monday, TODAY begins a special series called: 'Generation "O"' -- *overweight children*. The figures are staggering. In 1999, the Center for Disease Control reported that 15% of our children were overweight. That number continues to grow and today experts say it is as high as 25% percent. TODAY will examine some of the causes and consequences of childhood obesity and look at solutions to the problem. NBC's Kevin Tibbles, looks at a remarkable young woman who gives hope that the battle against childhood obesity can be won.

Nightly News

Friday, January 24

Nightly News examines helping children cope with surgery. There is an important new program to help put young patients at ease in the hospital. How does it work?

Today

Tuesday, January 28

TODAY will talk to pediatric nutritionist, Dr. Keith Ayoob about how to help your children develop good eating habits. In the 9:30 ½ hour of the broadcast, Chef Cary Neff from the Mirabelle Spa will show you how to prepare healthy snacks for kids.

Today

Wednesday, January 29

TODAY will talk to Keith Zucker, head of Camp Kingsmont, a weight loss camp for children ages 7 to 18, and Stephanie Burton, one of Camp Kingsmont's certified pediatric exercise teachers. Zucker will talk about the importance of exercise, option of camps for kids, how to get kids motivated. He'll also have some ideas of fun games to do with kids to get them up and moving. Burton will demonstrate fun exercises on the set with 2 kids in a weight reduction program

***NBC – SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL
HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES JANUARY***

Today

Thursday, January 30

TODAY will talk to teens about how it feels to be overweight. They will also talk to a doctor from John Hopkin's children's weight loss program. Two teens speak about specific problems teenagers face, including diet pills, peer pressure, and self confidence.

Today

Thursday, January 30

TODAY discusses ways to look younger without surgery. Dermatologist Steve Victor discusses his new book "Ageless Beauty" which describes the newest non-surgical cosmetic enhancements that can help turn back the clock without the risks involved in surgery.

Today

Friday, January 31

Summer Sanders profiles "Kidshape," an 8-week, non-profit family-based pediatric management weight program. She tells how parents must attend classes with their children, most of which are referred by pediatricians. The meetings focus on three important aspects of weight loss, nutrition, mental health, and physical exercise.

SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

Dr. Phil **1/9/03**

Host: Dr. Phil McGraw

Dr. Phil explores the mindset of the anorexic and bulimic individual. Why do these people continue with destructive behavior that they know could kill them? Dr. Phil also looks at websites that give "thinspiration" to people with this horrible disease.

Show #: 1196 Syndicator: Paramount / Kingworld

Dr. Phil **1/14/03**

Host: Dr. Phil McGraw

Dr. Phil gets to the root of Obsessive-Compulsive Behavior. For families, this behavior in one member can become a source of constant irritation for the others. How do you deal with it if you have it or one of your loved ones does?

Show #: 1064 Syndicator: Paramount / Kingworld

Connecting With Kids **1/29/03**

Research shows children today are much more anxious and stressed than children growing up fifty years ago. In fact, according to studies by the American Psychological Association, anxiety levels among teenagers have increased by more than 30 percent. The result is one in five American teenagers think about killing themselves, five thousand actually commit suicide and four million experience depression, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And yet most kids hide their feelings of anxiety and despair so that parents, teachers, and friends never know.

"Behind the Mask," is a 30-minute half-hour special exploring the lives of several teens and their battle with anxiety and depression. It not only features interviews with teens, but parents and experts openly discuss the warning signs and symptoms all parents, teachers and friends should look for, to see through the masks.

Show #: Behind The Mask Syndicator: Connecting With Kids Network

Dr. Phil **1/30/03**

Host: Dr. Phil McGraw

From head to toe, Dr. Phil takes a close look at the world of plastic surgery and the often unhealthy obsession many people have with it. Supermodel Janis Dickson, speaks out about her plastic surgery addiction along with other guests who've had significant experience with cosmetic enhancements. You'll meet a woman who wants to reduce her 42 HH breasts, an eighteen year old girl who dreams of looking like a fashion model and a woman who's had six nose jobs!

Show #: 1102 Syndicator: Paramount / Kingworld

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES. . . . FEBRUARY

2/3/03, 5 PM, Monday Sara Burget

LIFE EXPECTANCY/DNA

If you could, would you want to know your life expectancy? Researchers have discovered a way to find out using genetic research. Sara Burget reports on the medical studies and the implications.

1:16 – Package

Dr. Richard Cawthon – Human Genetics

2/3/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Monday Jon Meyer

LAUREL CREST

The fate of Cambria County's nursing home is now in the hands of three judges from the Commonwealth Court. The Resident's Council took their appeal of the home's sale to Pittsburgh, hoping the higher court stops it. Jon Meyer reports.

1:21 – Package

Joe Messina – Residents Council lawyer

Jim Varner – Mother at Laurel Crest

Gerri Sperling – Lawyer for county

2/4/03, 5 PM, Tuesday Sara Burget

HEART TESTING

The American Medical Association is recommending people who have a moderate risk of heart disease be tested for C-reactive protein, or CRP. Studies have linked high levels of CRP to an increased risk of heart attack. Sara Burget reports on how and why the test works.

1:42 – Package

Gervasio Lamas – Cardiovascular Diseases

Dr. Charles Oschwald – Cardiologist

2/4/03, 5 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

PAIN

Imagine being in so much pain that you can't function. That's a reality for thousands of people with undiagnosed pain. But now those patients are getting some relief from doctors who no longer treat the pain as a symptom, but as a disease.

:32 – SOT/VO

Fran Kavanaugh – Pain patient

2/5/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

TEETH WHITENING TROUBLE

Having a nice, white smile is not just about dental care anymore. Many go the extra step and whiten their teeth. But people need to be careful because those whitening products can hurt the gums. Sara Burget reports.

1:29 – Package

2/6/03, 5 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

NEW HOSPITAL GOWNS

A new hospital gown is making doctor visits for mammogram patients easier. The gown is a vision of executives at the Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center.

:32 – SOT/VO

Jacqueline Dickson – Designed gowns

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES. . . FEBRUARY

2/6/03, 6 / 11 : PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

CLINIC FUTURE IN DOUBT

Centre County leaders are angry over news that a medical clinic serving rural residents may soon be closing its doors. The Geisinger Clinic in Snow Shoe is the major health facility for residents of the Mountain Top area.

:36 – SOT/VO

Scott Conklin – Centre County Commissioner

2/6/03, 6 / 11 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

SMALLPOX VACCINE

Area health care workers will soon be asked to roll up their sleeves for the small pox vaccine. They are not being forced to get the vaccinations, but they can volunteer and President Bush would like at least half a million health care workers to do that.

:37 – SOT/VO

Dr. Daniel Wehner – Conemaugh Hospital

2/6/03, 11 PM, Thursday Alison Burns

JAPANESE VACCINE

There may be an alternative to the controversial smallpox vaccine being used to inoculate U.S. troops and emergency workers. The government is researching the effectiveness of a Japanese smallpox vaccine that is said to be much safer. It is expected to be available in the U.S. in the next two years, but safety advocates say Americans should have access to it now. Alison Burns reports.

2:28 – Package

Earl Walker – D.C. firefighter

Dr. Anthony Fauci – Director NIH

Barbra Loe Fisher – Vaccine Safety advocate

2/7/03, 5 PM, Friday Sara Burget

RSV & PREMIES

There is a virus out there making people sick, especially young children. Doctors say prevention is the most important weapon. Sara Burget reports.

1:47 – Package

Dr. M. Riaz – Neonatology

2/10/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

VACCINATIONS BEGIN

Despite the concern and risk, Pennsylvania kicked off its small pox vaccination program today. Five public health workers in Harrisburg were the first in the state to get the shots. Now they will lead a network of workers who would vaccinate the public in case of a terrorist-triggered emergency.:43 – SOT/VO

Dr. Robert Muscalus – Health Secretary

2/10/03, 5 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

EYE LASER SURGERY CORRECTION

If you're one off the many Americans who want to get rid of those glasses or contact lenses, you may be considering laser eye surgery. But while most patients are happy with their vision after lasering, others are worse off with glare, halos, and night vision problems.

:41 – SOT/VO

Dr. Joseph Russo – Eye laser surgeon

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES. . . . FEBRUARY

2/10/03, 5 PM, Monday Sara Burget

CONCUSSIONS

How early should athletes return to a game after they've suffered from a concussion? According to a study out of the University of Pittsburgh, the answer is not too soon. If they do, players could suffer even more problems. Sara Burget reports.

1:39 – Package

Dr. Jan Savit – Neurologist

2/11/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

RURAL DOCTORS

What happens when you live in a rural area, and the only doctor there leaves town? That is the situation facing hundreds of Centre County residents as they scramble to find new health care services despite ongoing efforts to recruit doctors to serve in more rural areas. Gary Sinderson reports.

1:05 – Package

2/11/03, 5 PM, Tuesday Sara Burget

SARCOIDOSIS

It's a disease that has no apparent cause and no cure, but the potential to affect thousands of Americans. It is called Sarcoidosis. Sara Burget reports on symptoms and treatment.

1:00 –

package

Dr. Nancy Sassower – Internal medicine

Andrea Wilson – Patient

2/11/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

OBESITY EPIDEMIC

Despite what you may see in magazines, a large group of America's young people is overweight. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the problem of teenage obesity is now at its highest level in American history. Lisa Stofko reports on the very dangerous consequences of this trend.

2:10 – Package

Catherine Allen – 16 years old

Dr. Ranveig Elvebakk – Bariatric physician

2/11/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Gina Redmon

BOTOX USE

It is the most potent poison on earth. Yet it is used for cosmetic purposes. But researchers at the University of Pittsburgh have found a new medical use for botox. Gina Redmon reports.

1:34 – Package

Deanna Broujos – MS Patient

Dr. Michael Chancellor – UPMC

2/12/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

DEALING WITH SNOW

We certainly have seen our share of winter this year, and with the prospect of more snow, it can lead to some folks experiencing depression. Natasha McBroom reports on how to deal with the mental side effects of a long difficult winter.

1:20 – Package

Allen Feathers – Mngr. Condryn Subaru

Robert Krawczak – Resident

Kori Clark – Ketrow Travel Agency

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2/12/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

HELP FOR TEEN DRINKERS

Teen drinking is one of the biggest problems facing America. For some of our young people, the temptation to start is just too strong. Once they start, it's very hard to stop. But they can do it. In fact, the best way is to help each other. Sara Burget reports.

1:28 – Package

Marina Cortez – Teenager

Zack Holland – Former problem drinker

Sandra Brown, Ph.D. – Psychologist

2/12/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

PREEMIE'S BRAIN/MENTAL ABILITIES

Sometimes, children who are born early have to face low mental abilities for all of their lives. But now there's proof that they may be able to grow out of it. Children mentally challenged at age 3 tested much higher 5 years later.

Laura Ment – Yale University M.D.

2/13/03, 5 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

HEROIN: HARD TO GET CLEAN

Addiction to heroin doesn't happen overnight. It is progressive. Addicts report that it is easy to get hooked, but getting clean is the hardest thing they've ever had to do. Lisa Stofko reports.

2:43 – Package

2/13/03, 6 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

HEROIN: RECOVERY

Heroin addicts have told us how hard it is to get clean. What works for one person may not work for another. Lisa Stofko reports on a unique faith-based program in Missouri that has been the destination of a number of young people from our area, and while it may seem radical, it is getting accomplished what some thought was impossible.

4:12 – Package

2/14/03, 5 PM, Friday Sara Burget

CHEMICAL REHAB

Maybe you've used heroin, you're hooked, and you know you need to stop. But you don't know if you can deal with withdrawal symptoms. Sara Burget reports on how a chemical rehab can help.

1:00 – Package

Thom Beavers – New Visions Chem Dept.

2/17/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Natasha McBroom

STORM IMPACT ON HOSPITALS

The winter weather has closed roads, schools, and businesses. But you don't normally think that a hospital would close because of a storm. Altoona Hospital didn't close its doors, but it did cancel non-emergency care. Natasha McBroom reports on why hospital administrators decided to cut some services and the effect on patients.

2:01 – Package

Ron McConnell – Hospital Sr. Vice Pres.

Frances Beard – Snow plower

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2/18/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Pennsylvania is among many states where doctors are cutting services or closing offices due to the medical malpractice crisis. Gary Sinderson reports on how politicians in our region are weighing in on the crisis and what they are doing to help resolve it.

1:20 – Package

Keith Bierly - Centre County Commissioner

Sen. Rick Santorum – (R) PA

Rep. Kerry Benninghoff – (R) Centre County

2/18/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

MAMMOGRAMS AND HEART TROUBLES

At first, there was a controversy over whether women should have regular mammograms. Most experts say they should and millions do every year. But can a mammogram detect other diseases besides breast cancer? Jen Kallin investigated.

3:06 – Package

Dr. Larry McNeish – Radiologist

Dr. Charles Oschwald – Cardiologist

Debbie Craig – Radiology Supervisor

2/18/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Dave Zafris

MALPRACTICE FORUM

Some doctors in Pennsylvania say they're paying too much for medical malpractice insurance. They claim it could force many physicians to leave the state. Dave Zafris reports from a forum held in State College.

1:02 – Package

Kerry Benninghoff – State Rep. (Bellefonte)

Philip Masorti – Attorney

Dr. Jonathan Dranov – Centre Medical

2/19/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

MALPRACTICE THREAT / CENTRE COMM. HOSPITAL

Medical malpractice insurance continues to be a hot issue in Pennsylvania. Now the Emergency Room at Centre Community Hospital faces a possible shutdown because 9 doctors there have not received info on their new insurance rates and don't know if they can afford to maintain the policies.

:46 – SOT/VO

Theodore Ziff – Centre Community Hospital

2/19/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

SMALL POX VACCINE

Some area emergency responders are deciding if they want to receive the small pox vaccine. They were told about the risks and side effects tonight at a presentation at UPMC Lee Regional. The government wants emergency workers to receive the vaccine, but it is still up to them.

:45 – SOT/VO

Dr. Sanders Ergas – UPMC Lee Regional

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2/20/03, 5 PM, Thursday Sara Burget

PRESCRIPTION COSTS

Paying for prescriptions can put a lot of strain on your budget. Most patients do their best to shop around for the best price. Many have found them out of the country or on the web. But drug companies are trying to stop them and they say they have a good reason. Sara Burget reports.

2:28 – Package

Janet Bladec – Customer

Lou Gouldier – Drug wholesaler

2/20/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

EPHEDRINE

Dieticians say teens have long used products with ephedrine in them to lose weight or gain energy. But the stimulant can produce dangerous results, especially if mixed with another popular teen indulgence. Lisa Stofko reports.

2:01 – Package

Julie – Age 17

Judy Crim – Dietician

Dr. Fiona Blair – Pediatrician

2/24/03, 5 PM, Monday Sara Burget

PREVENTING LUNG CANCER

Millions of Americans smoke; one out of every 5 deaths is caused by tobacco. If you've ever smoked, you're at risk for developing lung cancer even if you quit years ago. Sara Burget reports on the risk and how to reduce it.

1:57 – Package

Abbie Cole – Former smoker

Dr. Karam El-Bayoumy – Institute for Cancer Prevention

Kevin McDermott – Rethinking Habits

2/24/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Becky Thompson

DOUBLE-BILLING

If you have the flu and go to see your doctor, would you expect to pay more if you asked him to check your blood pressure? Becky Thompson looks at the practice of double billing.

2:09 – Package

Lori Calve – Double-billed patient

2/24/03, 11 PM, Monday Mark Allen

SMALL POX VACCINE

If a terrorist attack occurs, medical personnel would likely be called out to help the wounded. But that could put their lives at risk. So where do we stand locally with the small pox vaccine? Are area hospitals vaccinating employees? Mark Allen reports.

1:00 – Package

2/25/03, 5 PM, Tuesday Sara Burget

CANCER PREVENTION

There are two big risk factors when it comes to getting cancer. One is growing old. The other is genetics. But you can lower your risk of getting cancer. Sara Burget reports.

1:51 – Package

Laura Pensiero – Chef

Dr. John Pinto – Institute for Cancer Prevention

Dr. Leonard Cohen – Anesthesiologist

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2/26/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

CANCER PREVENTION PT. 2

Billions of research dollars have been spent to find effective cancer treatments and cures. But instead of treating the cancer after you're diagnosed, why not prevent yourself from getting it in the first place? Sara Burget reports.

1:00 – Package

Dr. Daniel Nixon – Medical oncology

Staci Lewis – Praise Dance ministry

2/26/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

SMALL POX VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS

It has become an issue, thanks to the threat of more terror attacks. Should people get a small pox vaccination? Researchers are now looking in to just how effective the vaccine is. For those who got shots when they were children, is the vaccine still working?

:36 – SOT/VO

Mark Slifka, Ph.D. – Vaccine & Gene Therapy

2/26/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Peggy Finnegan

STOMACH STAPLING FOR TEENAGERS

About 15 percent of teens are obese. Now surgery once considered suitable only for adults is being performed on teenagers. Stomach stapling provides a way to lose weight but not without a number of risks for teenagers. Are the risks worth the benefits? Peggy Finnegan reports.

2:04 – Package

Lori Henry – Gastric Bypass patient

Elya Henry – Gastric bypass patient

Dr. Philip Schauer – UPMC

2/27/03, 5 PM, Thursday Sara Burget

QUALITY CARE

In the hospital, you expect good care. But what if there are problems and you don't think you were treated properly? You do have rights.. Sara Burget reports.

1:15 – Package

2/27/03, 11 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

MALPRACTICE INSURANCE

People got to hear both sides of the malpractice issue at a forum at Juniata College in Huntingdon. Doctors say the state's malpractice insurance is too high, and is forcing physicians out of Pennsylvania. The insurance industry blames the high rates on the glut of malpractice lawsuits.

:36 – SOT/VO

Robert Jubelirer – State Senator

2/28/03, 5 PM, Friday Sara Burget

BETTER BREATHING

Imagine having shortness of breath from just getting dresses. That can happen to some people. Sara Burget has information on how to breathe easier.

1:00 – Package

Betty Lombardo – Patient

Joe Brunner – Resp. Care Practitioner

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2/28/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Natasha McBroom

GEISINGER CLOSING IMPACT

A Geisinger Medical facility is closing its doors because it can't afford to stay open and can't keep doctors in the Snow Shoe area. It's going to mean hardships for some residents of Centre County. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:33 - Package

Isabell Mayes - Former nurse

Bunny Shaw - Geisinger patient

NBC – SMALL POX VACCINE & OTHER HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL ISSUES . . . FEBRUARY

Today

Monday, February 3

On Monday, February 3rd, TODAY will begin a two part series on genetic counseling and testing. The discussion ranges from what it is and who should get it, to what types of diseases it can test for, TODAY will provide the abc's of genetic testing. Guests include:- Genetic counselor, Kristin Baker Niendorf, from MA General Hospital in Boston, Pamela Sylvia, who has and is being treated for breast cancer and her sister, Samantha Powers, who is getting the genetic testing done to see if she too will develop breast cancer.

Today

Wednesday, February 5

Despite promising reports on declines in substance abuse among teens, girls are taking to alcohol and cigarettes at younger ages than ever before. This morning, Columbia University's National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse or CASA, is releasing the results of a three year study on girls, substance abuse, and why they suffer swifter and harsher consequences than boys. TODAY talks to Joe Califano, the Chairman and president of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse and Florida First Lady Columba Bush, an advocate for the prevention of substance abuse and a member of the board of directors of CASA.

Today

Thursday, February 6

Genetic counselors, Kristin Baker Niendorf and Samantha Powers discuss the results and implications of genetic testing.

Today

Friday, February 7

As part of the continuing series "Today's Health," Chief Science Correspondent Robert Bazell examines children and multiple sclerosis. Doctors have always assumed that MS strikes in young adulthood, but now there is a new, frightening realization that it can affect children, some at a very young age.

Nightly News

Monday, February 10: The Uninsured

Correspondent: David Gregory

There are some 40 million Americans who are uninsured and the numbers are growing every day? The uninsured Americans are not just the poor: Fully 23 percent are working, 16 percent earn more than \$75,000 a year. As one expert put it, "They are becoming us, not them." Increasingly, younger Americans are opting out of insurance because of the high cost, leaving older Americans to share an even financial greater burden. We'll look at the problem through the eyes of one uninsured family and hear from experts about this ever-growing problem.

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Nightly News

Tuesday, February 11: Copying Canada System

Correspondent: Kelly O'Donnell

The idea just won't go away -- universal health-care -- regardless of how many times it's been touted as *the* solution, then debunked as *not* the solution. Now, it's back. The head of Blue Cross in CA called for it recently, the prestigious National Academy of Sciences proposed starting some model state programs and Senator Kerry is likely to include it in his presidential platform. So, what is it anyway? We'll take a close look at Canada's single payer system, at its strengths and weaknesses. Could it work here?

Nightly News

Wednesday, February 12: Doctor's plan

Correspondent: Ashleigh Banfield

With nicknames like Dr. Passion and Dr. Statesman, a group of doctors in Ashville, N.C., have done what many might consider a remarkable feat. Rather than wait for the government to solve the problem of the uninsured in their city, they decided to come up with their own plan. At issue: how to cover 17,000 individuals who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, but who can't afford health insurance? The solution: In just six months they recruited approximately 90 percent of the doctors in the community to provide care for free. Doctors donate \$7 million (\$10,000 per doctor) in charity care per year. In a recent poll in Ashville, the uninsured reported being in better health than the insured. The doctors say in this age of managed care, when they feel beaten down, this has renewed the spirit of their profession. This model is now being tried in five other cities.

Nightly News

Thursday, February 13: Paperwork

Correspondent: Robert Bazell

A report on the mountain of paperwork doctors now have to deal with and how that is affecting their ability to care for patients.

Nightly News

Friday, February 14: Where's Washington?

Correspondent: David Gregory

Whatever happened to the Washington helping the uninsured? Republicans make promises, Democrats make promises and the only thing that's changed is the number of uninsured. We'll take a look at some of the Bush Administration's ideas, like health vouchers for low income people and model state programs, such as the one in Tennessee, that offer coverage to the uninsured. We'll hear from Democrats. And we'll hear from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson.

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Nightly News

Monday, February 24: Aides

Tonight on NBC Nightly News, Robert Bazell will have a report about the status of the first AIDS vaccine being tested in a large scale trial. Researchers found that it failed to protect most people, but that the risk was significantly lowered for some minorities. Bazell will address the surprising results and what they mean for the future of AIDS research.

Today Show

Tuesday February 25

As part of the continuing series TODAY's Health ...brain tumors. Dr. Linda Liau a neurosurgeon at UCLA helps viewers understand some of the symptoms of brain tumors.

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Dr. Phil **2/3/03**

Host: Dr. Phil McGraw

Fast food, video games, and a sedentary lifestyle are combining to make one out of every three kids in the United States overweight. With the population of obese children ballooning to epidemic proportions, Dr. Phil reaches out to parents everywhere about their responsibilities in meeting the nutritional needs of their children properly.

Show #: 1113 Syndicator: Paramount / Kingworld

Dr. Phil **2/4/03**

Host: Dr. Phil McGraw

Dr. Phil dispels the excuses some parents give for their child's obesity. Also, should parents have the right to retain custody of their children if they contribute to the child's condition of excessive life threatening obesity despite warnings of the harmful consequences to the child's health?

Show #: 1202 Syndicator: Paramount / Kingworld

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3/3/03, 5 PM, Monday Sara Burget

STRESS ALERT

According to a recent survey, 75 percent of us feel stressed out every week. Sara Burget reports on how stress can have a terrible effect on our health and the need to deal with it.

1:27 – Package

Ata Nelken – Stress patient

Mari Perrone – Stress patient

Dr. Bruce McKewen – Rockefeller University

Dr. Shawn Talbott – Nutritionist

3/3/03, 5 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

WEIGHT LOSS PATCH

Imagine slapping on a patch to make weight disappear. That's the promise of a new product that contains iodine to speed up the thyroid. However, doctors believe exercise is still the best way to speed up the thyroid.

::45 – SOT/VO

Kim Deveney – Uses patch

Joe Titone – Super Natural Health Food

3/3/03, 5 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

FOOD CRAVINGS

If you eat fast and eat on the run, you aren't giving your body the chance to feel full. And that could contribute to overeating and obesity.

:31 – SOT/VO

Mark Gold, Ph.D. – Addiction researcher

3/4/03, 5 PM, Tuesday Sara Burget

STRESS PT. 2

Stress can cause a lot more problems for you than you might think. The key is to know when you're stressed, and then do something about it. Sara Burget reports.

2:10 – Package

Dr. Len Horovitz – Pulmonologist

Dr. Christine Lay – Headache Specialist

Dr. Shawn Talbot – Nutritionist

Marti Perrone – Suffers from stress

Dr. Paul Rosch - Street Management Specialist

3/4/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

It's a category of drugs that seems to be exploding in popularity among today's young people, and in many cases, they don't have to go far to get them. Lisa Stofko has more on prescription drug abuse.

2:02 – Package

Marie Bokemeyer – Age 17

Mururi Wangu – Age 17

Jackson Sneed – Age 17

Dr. Steven Jaffe – Psychologist

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3/6/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

VEGGIE BOOM

When it comes to favorite meals, 11 percent of girls are not naming hamburgers. In fact, they're vegetarians. The number of teens to become vegetarians has jumped by one-third in just 5 years. But are kids really eating healthier? Lisa Stofko reports.

2:04 – Package

Meaghan Smith – Age 18

Robert Smith – Father

Page Love – Registered dietician

3/6/03, 6 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

OPIATE MEETING

A conference on opiates brought community leaders from across 3 states together in State College to discuss how to resolve the heroin problem. Last year 14,000 people in Pennsylvania identified themselves as addicts. This year, only 2 months into the year, 7,000 have already come forward to receive treatment. For everyone addict in treatment, there are 3 who are not. Why is this epidemic happening? Natasha McBroom reports.

:50 – Package

Michael Flaherty – Executive Director, Ireta

3/7/03, 5 PM, Friday Sara Burget

CAMERA PILL

A colonoscopy or an EGD is a normal procedure for testing the intestinal tract. But now doctors at Conemaugh Medical Center have another method they think is a lot easier on the patient. Sara Burget reports.

1:41 – Package

Charles McCauley – Took camera pill

Dr. Richard Salluzzo – Conemaugh Medical Center

3/7/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

CANCER SCREENING

A traveling medical facility made a stop in Clearfield County, giving patients the chance to get a mammogram and a risk assessment of osteoporosis. While no one likes tests, doctors stressed how important it is to catch disease in the early stages.

:32 – SOT/VO

Becky Ross – Glendale Medical Center

3/11/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Sara Burget

TESTOSTERONE GEL

For men, it's not uncommon to look, feel, and act older than you are. Five million American men say they feel that way. But there is a reason, and there 's a therapy that helps. Sara Burget reports.

1:50 – Package

Dr. Lawrence Levine – Urologist

Dr. David Mohl – Patient

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3/11/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Diana Olick

OBEESITY COSTS

America is fat and getting fatter. Fast food and a slower pace are to blame for increasing waistlines nationwide. It's costing Americans their health and their jobs. But what is it costing the economy as a whole? Diana Olick reports.

3:33 – Package

Roland Strum – Rand Corporation

Dr. Arthur Frank – Internist

3/12/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

DEPRESSION ALTERNATIVE

For those who suffer with depression, the common treatment is an anti-depressant. But you may want to try an alternative treatment that is having good results. Sara Burget reports.

1:54 – Package

Kim Goldman – Suffered depression

Julia Ross – Author "The Mood Cure"

3/13/03, 5 PM, Thursday Sara Burget

SLEEP DISORDERS

Are you tired all the time? Maybe you just need more sleep. But you could have a serious problem. How can you know? Sara Burget reports.

1:43 – Package

Dr. Joel Younger – Sleep Disorder Center

3/13/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

HEALTH INSURANCE

Americans without health insurance is a growing problem all across the country.

Pennsylvania has close to one million people who are uninsured. That number is on the rise with a growth that is twice as fast as the nation's. What can turn this problem around? Natasha McBroom reports.

1:04 – Package

3/17/03, 5 PM, Monday Sara Burget

MINI-STROKES

Two million Americans experience mini-strokes every year. The signs and symptoms are the same as an actual stroke, but they disappear in less than 24 hours. How is it diagnosed correctly? Sara Burget reports.

2:09 – Package

Judy Lee – Mini stroke patient

Dr. Pierre Fayad – Neurologist

3/17/03, 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

GATEWAY DRUG?

There is new evidence to bolster the long-disputed theory that soft drugs like marijuana can lead to the use of harder drugs like cocaine or heroin. Is it enough to convince teens? Lisa Stofko reports.

2:07 – Package

Dr. Robert Margolis – Connect With Kids

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3/18/03, 6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

MEDICAL COURT PROPOSAL

Is a new legal remedy the answer in diagnosing what to do about the ever-increasing medical malpractice problems? Pennsylvania continues to lose doctors due to malpractice insurance costs. And a growing number of health care administrators and legislators are backing a medical court initiative.

:36 – SOT/VO

Frank Trembulak – Geisinger Health System

3/19/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

CUSTOM FACE CREAM

Have you ever heard of genetic face cream, one based on your DNA? While it is dramatically different from anyone else's, the question is, is it really worth the cost? Sara Burget reports.

2:15 – Package

John Redeyoff – Uses cream

Dr. Charles Ryan – Lab

Dr. Paul Bujanauskas – Dermatologist

3/20/03, 5 PM, Thursday Sara Burget

SEA SQUIRTS

A very small sea creature is drawing big attention from cancer researchers. The reason could have healing effects for cancer patients. Sara Burget reports.

1:30 – Package

Gretchen Lambert – Marine Biologist

Charles Lambert – Marine Biologist

3/24/03, 5 PM, Monday Sara Burget

COOKIE DIET

How can you eat cookies and lose weight? Sara Burget reports on a special cookie diet that includes thyroid-boosting treats.

2:42 – Package

Dr. Sanford Siegal – Siegal Medical Group

Jeff Barnes – Trying cookie diet

Jennifer Marks – Endocrinologist

Gwen Enfield – Nutritionist

3/25/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

ANTI-TOBACCO

Baseball season is almost here and the Altoona Curve is starting the year by taking a stand against tobacco. The Curve is printing the State's free quit-line on every baseball schedule it releases in an effort to get folks to kick the habit. The Curve owners feel that the role that sports figures play as role models offers an excellent opportunity for them to aid the American Cancer Society in its efforts.

:42 – SOT/VO

Todd Parnell – Curve General Manager

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3/26/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Sara Burget

CANCER BLOOD TEST

More and more studies show that cancer cells leave telltale markers in the blood. Sara Burget reports on whether or not a simple needle stick test could diagnose cancer better than a mammogram.

1:58 – Package

Jackie Daniels – Breast Cancer Survivor

Melodie Domurd – Matritech

Susan Pories – Harvard Medical School

3/28/03, 5 PM, Friday Sara Burget

HIP REPLACEMENT

When you can't walk down the street because your hips hurt so much, something is wrong. A possible solution is a double-hip replacement or dual hip replacement. Who is a candidate for the procedure? What are the drawbacks? Sara Burget reports.

2:05 – Package

3/31/03, 5 PM, Monday Sara Burget

PILL DIGESTION

When you take a pill, you typically swallow and forget about it. Now, engineers have a way to see what happens when the pill reaches your stomach. Why is that important? Sara Burget reports.

1:36 – Package

James Brasseur – PSU Project Leader

Anupam Pal – Penn State Researcher

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Nightly News

Monday, March 3

This is a new era of birth control. Robert Bazell reports on why millions of couples may have new choices in contraception.

Today

Tuesday, March 4

As part of the continuing series TODAY's Health...kids and concussions. Each year more than a million high school athletes are involved in contact Sports. And out of that group, an estimated 63,000 concussions will occur. It's an area of sports medicine that's been largely ignored, until recently. Dr. Michael Collins, assistant director of the sports concussion program at The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and co-author of a recent study on concussions stops by to talk about this very important, but often ignored health concern.

Today

Wednesday, March 5

As part of the continuing series TODAY's Woman...what to do if someone in your family suffers from the effects of health denial, refusing to see a doctor, yet smoking, drinking and eating too much. TODAY contributor and psychoanalyst Dr. Gail Saltz is TODAY's guest.

Nightly News

Monday, March 10

Could new research into peanut allergies make life-threatening reactions a thing of the past? Could this treatment lead to the prevention of other food allergies affecting 6 million Americans?

Today

Wednesday, March 12

As part of the continuing series TODAY's Woman...how to cope when you or your loved one receives that devastating diagnosis of cancer. TODAY contributor and psychoanalyst Dr. Gail Saltz is the guest.

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Today

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday, March 17 – 20

According to the American Cancer Society, colon cancer is still the nation's second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths - yet it is curable in more than 90 percent of cases if caught early.

On Monday, March 17th, TODAY will begin a four-part series on Colon Cancer Awareness. The series is intended to educate viewers about prevention and new developments in screening and treatment for this disease during March, which is colon cancer awareness month.

The following is a breakdown of the series, please keep in mind this is subject to change:

PART 1 - Monday, March 17th – Colon Cancer 101: Katie Couric explains exactly what colon cancer is, who gets it, what the symptoms are, and how the disease can be prevented. On Monday, Katie will showcase a brand new, technique using computer visualization of actual patients' scans to show how colon cancer develops. She will also speak with NBC News Chief Medical Correspondent Robert Bazell who will have a report on state-of-the-art colon cancer screening and treatment methods.

PART 2 - Tuesday, March 18th - TODAY producer Nancy Steiner, will undergo a colonoscopy during the broadcast. Steiner's grandfather died at age 55 from the disease, and when she was screened three years ago, a pre-cancerous polyp was found. This screening will check for subsequent growths and will highlight the value of early detection as the key to preventing colon cancer.

PART 3 – Wednesday, March 19th - A look at what you can do if you or someone you love is diagnosed with colon cancer? Katie will talk with two guests about patient advocacy; how to get the best treatment available and how to navigate through the maze of information available to patients and their families.

Guest: Ernestine Hambrick. A colorectal surgeon who lost her brother to colon cancer and consequently left her practice to raise public awareness about screening and preventing the disease. She single handedly encouraged the entire Chicago Police and Fire Department members to undergo screening.

Guest: Colon cancer survivor Pati Lanning. She received her diagnosis five years ago and turned her illness into a cause for awareness and action. She helped find the National Colon Cancer Alliance - a clearing house for patient information.

Part 4 – Thursday, March 20th – Dr. Mark Pochapin of the New York Weill Cornell campus of the New York- Presbyterian Hospital and The Jay Monahan Center for Gastrointestinal Health (named in honor of Katie's late husband) will answer viewer questions.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES JANUARY

1/02/03, 11 PM, Thursday Sophia Wharton

REGIONAL RECALLS

Is the car you drive everyday safe? If the manufacturer said "no," you'd know about it, right? As Sophia Wharton reports, you may not be told because of where you live. Regional recalls allow manufacturers to recall and repair cars only where a geographical factor may lead to the problem.

2:42 – Package

1/03/03, 5 / 11 PM, Friday Dave Zafris

PAYING HOLIDAY BILLS

Now that Christmas is over, it's time to pay those credit card bills. Dave Zafris shows you how to get out from under that credit card crunch.

1:43 – Package

Sandy McGeary – Consumer Credit

1/03/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

COFFEEMAKER TEST

Some of us can't make it through the day without a cup of coffee. But sometimes a good cup of Joe can be hard to come by. Consumer investigator Becky Thompson puts several coffeemakers to the test.

1:27 – Package

Bob Karpel – Consumer Reports

1/06/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Asa Aarons

SPAM CRACKDOWN

Email has become the way of life in both the business world and the private sector. With so much depending on e-mail, you've probably found your inbox jammed with junk mail or spam. So how do spammers get your address? As Asa Aarons found out, you probably gave it to them.

1:43 – Package

May Chao – NY Consumer Protection

1/09/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Dave Zafris

GAS PRICES UP

Gas prices are going up again. Industry analysts expect prices to surge about 10 cents a gallon by mid-Spring. People don't seem surprised, but will it affect their driving habits and plans? Dave Zafris reports.

1:00 – Package

Robert G. Pennington – Altoona

Mary Lu St. Clair – Lived in England

1/09/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Liz Crenshaw

INSURANCE COSTS

If you drive a car or own a home, insurance rates are expected to rise by as much as 10 percent in 2003. Why? And what can you do to lower your rates? Liz Crenshaw reports.

2:33 – Package

Dr. Robert Hartwig – Insurance Info Institute

Brian O'Neill – Highway Safety

Dr. Sean Mooney – Insurance Industry Analyst

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES ***.... JANUARY***

1/10/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

BATTERIES TO TEST

This time of year, Americans are using a lot of batteries. All together, one and a half billion dollars is spent a year on those power sources. Consumer investigator Becky Thompson shows you how to power up while saving money.

1:12 – Package

Mike Connelly – Consumer Reports

1/14/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Dave Zafris

CHEAP GAS

You probably noticed it the last time you filled up your tank, gas prices are up. But they're not as high as you may think. Dave Zafris looks at how cheap gas is here as opposed to across the country.

1:35 – Package

Betty Milhorn – Altoona

Bill Cox – Ebensburg

1/15/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

PAIN MEDICATIONS

Between the cold weather and shoveling all that snow, chances are good that you're reaching for the Advil or Tylenol. Each year Americans spend billions on over-the-counter pain medications. There are hundreds of choices. Which are best? Becky Thompson reports.

1:38 – Package

Dr. Marvin Lipman – Consumer Reports

1/15/03, 6 / 11 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

SUV INSURANCE RATES

If you own an SUV, your insurance rates are on the rise. The increases are due to a new report that says SUV's are dangerous and can be vulnerable to deadly rollovers. Alison Burns reports.

1:10 – Package

Bob Hunter – Consumer Federation of America

James Johnson – SUV owner

Rich Beacon – SUV owner

1/17/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jon Meyer

WINTERIZE YOUR CAR

The frigid temperatures can cause a great many problems for your car. Since it is one big investment, you want to do your best to protect it. Here are some tips to keep your car in shape for winter.

:43 – SOT/VO

Pat Butler – Butler's Garage

1/16/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Becky Thompson

RETIREMENT PROGRAMS

Planning to retire at 65? The number of people still working past that age has doubled in the last 20 years. In tough times like these, many more must delay retirement. Consumer investigator Becky Thompson reports on how to use those retirement plans now.

1:13 – Package

Mandy Walker – Consumer Reports

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES JANUARY

1/22/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

KITCHEN GADGETS

We all like gadgets that make our tasks easier, especially in the kitchen. But there are a lot of products that don't live up to their claims. Consumer Reports tested some small kitchen appliances to see what works best. Becky Thompson reports.

1:09 – Package

1/24/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Liz Crenshaw

HEATING YOUR HOME

Are you tired of high heating bills? There's a way to find out if you're letting your hard earned money fly out the window. When you could be lowering your bill. Liz Crenshaw reports.

2:57 – Package

Loren Goldfarb – Homeowner

Lee O'Neal – N-Spects

1/28/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

HEATING ASSISTANCE

With our bitterly cold temperatures, more and more people in our area are asking for help in paying their heating bills. The federal government is releasing more emergency funding, but the big question is, "Will it be enough?" Gary Sinderson reports on the increasing demand for help.

:50 – Package

Robert Ott – Centre County Services Director

1/28/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Sophia Wharton

EXTERMINATION

Has your home ever fallen prey to pesky critters? Chances are that some type of insect will invade your house at one time or another. You turn to the pros for help. But are you always getting the information you need to keep the pests from coming back? Sophia Wharton reports on how to get all you pay for as far as info and service.

2:38 – Package

Vera Gibbons – Smartmoney Magazine

Devri Brown – Homeowner

Even Dugas – Attorney

Cindy Mannes – National Pest Management Association

Joy Lewis – Homeowner

1/29/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jon Meyer

TELEMARKETING SCAM

Pennsylvania's "do not call" list for telemarketers is leading to a new kind of scam. There is a new effort underway that is trying to exploit people who don't want to receive those calls. Jon Meyer reports on those who are peddling telephone protection.

1:30 – Package

Amy Morgan – Johnstown

Barry Creany – Attorney General's office

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES JANUARY

1/29/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

OATMEAL TASTE TESTING

A warm bowl of oatmeal may keep away the chill on a frosty morning, but what is the best tasting brand on the market? Consumer investigator Becky Thompson puts the leading brands to the test.

1:11 – Package

Sandy Iuliano – Oatmeal consumer

1/30/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

HOME WARRANTIES

If you're looking to buy a new home, you may have found one that comes with a warranty. While that may seem like a good selling point, it's still buyer beware. Home warranties are designed to cover the cost when items in your home go on the fritz, but make sure you read the fine print. If your problem isn't a mechanical one, it may not be covered.

:42 – SOT/VO

Bob Zoritch – Real Estate agent

1/31/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

CHICKEN SOUP

When the cold weather hits, there's nothing like a bowl of steaming hot soup, especially chicken noodle soup. But which is best tasting? Consumer investigator Becky Thompson puts them to the taste test.

1:23 – Package

Harry Levy – Parent

Maxine Siegel – Consumer Reports

NBC – GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES JANUARY

Today Show

Friday January 3

Today's Money. Jean Chatsky discusses why real estate may be a good investment in bad economic times. For many people, their home is now their biggest investment. A look at how to make smart choices about issues such as refinancing and renovating your current home vs. buying a new one.

Today Show

Friday January 3

TODAY Travel Editor, Peter Greenberg discusses air fare wars in the new year. 2003 is shaping up to be a bleak year for the airline industry, but in some cases, travelers may benefit. A look at the discounted fares being offered by some airlines to lure customers

Today Show

Wednesday January 8

As winter hits full swing it's still not too late to take a few steps to winterize your home...by buttoning up your home you could trim up to 20% off your total energy bills in 2003.

Today Show

Wednesday January 15

As part of the continuing series "TODAY's Family," consumer reporter Janice Lieberman stops by to provide viewers with information on the best baby products on the market.

Dateline

Friday, January 17

When it comes to moving, consumers no longer rely only on traditional companies that advertise in the phone book. Increasingly, they're turning to the Internet for good deals. While many moving companies in this industry are honest, others are taking consumers and all of their belongings - for a ride. Victoria Corderi reports in a special Dateline hidden camera investigation.

Today

Thursday, January 30

TODAY provides a closer look at insurance scams. While the costs of health insurance continue to skyrocket, we're hearing more about companies selling policies that turn out to be worthless. Consumer correspondent Janice Lieberman discusses how to protect yourself.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES. . . . FEBRUARY

2/4/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

GAS PRICES UP

It is costing more to fill up your tank. Gas prices are going up again. And the price could go even higher if the U.S. goes to war with Iraq. Area motorists aren't happy.

:30 – SOT/VO

Gerald Jerome – Bakersville

2/4/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Sophia Wharton

MONEY FROM CLASS ACTION

There is a cache worth billions of dollars that has not been tapped into. The money is from class action lawsuits that were never claimed. Sophia Wharton explains how to stake a claim.

2:04 – Package

Lewis Kahn – ClassactionAmerica.com

Scott Wurtele – Bigclassaction.com

Cindy O'Connor – Claimed cash

2/5/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

KITCHEN HELPERS

Manufacturers keep coming up with new products that are supposed to make the time you spend in the kitchen a little easier. Becky Thompson investigates the three latest products to see if they accomplish that purpose.

1:22 – Package

Rich Handel – Consumer Reports

Tara Casaregola – Consumer Reports

2/5/03, 5:30 / 11 PM, Wednesday Mark Allen

COMPUTER DATA/HIDDEN ON THE HARD DRIVE

When you discard your old computer, it could be as dangerous as throwing away your wallet with all your credit cards and personal I.D. inside. How can you make sure the data disappears? Mark Allen reports.

2:30 – Package

Mark McLaughlin – Computer forensics

Todd Baitsholts – Computer owner

Kevin Kranz – Computer specialist

2/5/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

HYDROGEN CARS

Hydrogen-powered cars are a hot topic ever since President Bush announced his desire to see one in every driveway. On the Penn State campus, discussion abounds on how to achieve the President's objective as quickly as possible, and yet keep these cars affordable. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:24 – Package

Dr. Bruce Logan – Dir. Hydrogen Energy Center

Rep. John Peterson – (R) 5th District

2/7/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

GAS PRICES

All across the country, everyone is feeling the pinch at the pumps. Why? How high will prices go locally?

:32 – SOT/VO

Bill O'Grady – A.G. Edwards

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES. . . . FEBRUARY

2/7/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

TOP COOKWARE

It's possible to spend almost two hundred dollars on a single saucepan for your kitchen. But before you shell out that kind of money, consumer investigator Becky Thompson put cookware to the test, and found out that you can get a whole 10 piece set for far less.

1:34 - Package

Mark Connelly - Consumer Reports

2/12/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

TEA TASTES

A hot cup of tea can chase away the chill. Drinking tea has also been touted as a way to help fight heart disease and certain cancers. Consumer investigator Becky Thompson examined 20 different teas to find the best tasting one.

1:27 - Package

Tod Marks - Consumer Reports

2/17/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Bill Brown

INCREDIBLE SHRINKING PRODUCT

Do you feel like your dollar doesn't buy as much as it used to? Maybe it's because there isn't as much product for your dollar as there used to be. Bill Brown reports on downsizing, the incredible shrinking products.

3:16 - Package

Mary Bach - Consumer expert

2/19/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

NEW CAR TESTS

Before you go looking for a new car, Consumer Reports put about 50 makes and models, including trucks and SUV's, to the test. More and more vehicles are coming equipped with features that claim to make your life easier, so Becky Thompson put them to the test.

1:13 - Package

David Champion - Consumer Reports

2/21/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jon Meyer

RETIREE BENEFITS

The looming loss of healthcare coverage for Bethlehem Steel retirees has insurance companies busy trying to sign up new customers. The Steelworker's Union has a warning for the 95 thousand people about to lose benefits: don't rush in to any long-term plans. Jon Meyer reports on why.

1:00 - Package

Robert White - Bethlehem Steel retiree

Ray Jastrzab - Steelworkers Union

2/21/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

CORDLESS PHONES

We are becoming a society on the move, and that means the cordless phone is a household must. Consumer Reports tested more than two dozen, and Becky Thompson has the results.

1:34 - Package

Susanne Small - Parent

Joyce Ward - Consumer Reports

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES. . . . FEBRUARY

2/26/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

TESTING MP3 PLAYERS

2002 was a record year for MP3 players, topping a million. Some can cost over \$400, but many basic players are more affordable than ever. Becky Thompson put 2 dozen to the test to help find the best value.

1:39 – Package

2/28/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

BEST SOUND SYSTEM

People spend hundreds, even thousands of dollars on their home audio system. But spending a lot of money doesn't guarantee you'll get great audio. Consumer investigator Becky Thompson says your speakers are key to getting the sound quality you pay for.

1:05 – Package

NBC – GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES FEBRUARY

Today

Thursday, February 6

As part of the continuing series "FOREVER YOUNG: A Guide To Life After 50"... Identity Theft. Consumer lawyer, Alan Kopit talks about ways to minimize your risk of becoming a victim.

Today Show

Friday February 7

It's the daily chores and routines in life that thin people take for granted, traveling on airplanes, sitting comfortable at the office or even putting your clothes on. Now, some smart marketers are filling in a need offering products to making living large...easier. TODAY'S consumer correspondent Janice Lieberman reports.

Today Show

Monday February 17

Today's travel editor, Peter Greenberg provides tips on using frequent flyer miles.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES ... MARCH

3/5/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

OVULATION KITS

With many couples having trouble getting pregnant, lots of women are using ovulation kits to help predict the best time to conceive. That has sales of those tests totaling 3 million dollars a year. Consumer Reports tested 11 different kits and found that some are a lot better than others. Consumer Investigator Becky Thompson has the results.

1:22 – Package

Ellen Hirsch – New Mother

Nancy Metcalf – Consumer Reports

3/5/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Tracy Davidson

NIGERIAN SCAM WITH A TWIST

It is probably one of the best-known scams, a con artist contacts you to deposit money into a bank account for Nigerians. The old scam is back with a twist. Tracy Davidson reports on how to keep from getting scammed.

1:12 – Package

Desiree Tilley – was scammed

Mike Fisher – State Attorney General

3/7/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

HOME PREGNANCY TESTS

Home pregnancy kits promise to tell a woman if she's pregnant with 99 percent accuracy. Many claim they'll give you early results in less than a minute. But do they deliver on those promises? Consumer investigator Becky Thompson puts them to the test.

1:23 – Package

Meri Kaplan – New mom

Geoff Martin – Consumer Reports

3/11/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

GAS PRICES / DRIVERS HURTING

It seems like every week, another nickel is added to the price of gasoline. The price increase is having a bad effect on everyone. Local drivers say the cost is hurting their budgets and affecting whether they go out or not. Mark Allen reports on how the increase is viewed locally.

:46 – Package

Chris Rager – South Fork

Frank Rovin – Johnstown

3/11/03, 6 / 11 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

GAS PRICES/TRUCKERS HURTING

Gas prices are soaring and draining everyone's wallet. But it is truckers who are hurting the most. With no relief in sight, they say skyrocketing gas prices could put them out of business. Mark Allen reports.

:47 – Package

Richard Stanley – Indiana

Jim Fagan – Independent trucker

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES ... MARCH

3/12/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

BEST WATER FILTERS

One-third of American families now filter their tap water before they drink it. Most use a Brita or another inexpensive carafe. Consumer investigator Becky Thompson took a look at several to find out which do the best job of filtering contaminants and improving your water's taste.

1:27 - Package

Lynne Tanner - Carafe filter user

3/14/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Shari Ast

HIGH DEFINITION TV

True high definition television is so clear, you can see a bead of sweat at a sporting event. But with technology being so new and prices still high, there's still a lot for you to consider. Shari Ast reports on why you should or shouldn't buy.

1:42 - Package

James Poston - Best Buy

3/14/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

WATER FILTER ALTERNATIVES

When it comes to filtering your water, Brita Carafes have their downside. They can't filter a large amount of water quickly. Consumer Investigator Becky Thompson tested some alternative filtering systems that go under your sink.

1:21 - Package

Maureen Ball - Uses filtering system

Jim Nanni - Consumer Reports

3/18/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Tracy Davidson

CREDIT REPORT

Your credit score is used for a variety of applications from mortgages to insurance rates. We all want a high score, but how do you get one? Tracy Davidson reports.

2:04 - Package

3/19/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

CUTLERY COSTS

Americans spent over 3 hundred million dollars at the cutlery counter in 2001. That's up from the year before. Consumer investigator Becky Thompson looked at what's out there and the value of the sets of knives.

1:15 - Package

John Macchia - Consumer Reports

3/21/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

KNIVES TO THE TEST

A good set of knives is essential for any kitchen, but you can pay plenty for one. While serrated knives don't need special care, others in your set do. Becky Thompson reports on the best knife sets.

1:13 - Package

John Macchia - Consumer reports

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES ... MARCH

3/21/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Audrey Laganas

CANCELLING VACATIONS

Now that the United States is at war with Iraq, you may be rethinking that vacation adventure. Some airlines and tour companies have loosened their cancellation policies, but they vary. Should they give you your money back? Audrey Laganas reports.

1:32 – Package

Dr. Ellen Frankel – Change of plans

Bill Sutherland – AAA Travel

3/28/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Becky Thompson

HERBAL REMEDIES

Not so long ago, many of us never heard of Echinacea, ginkgo biloba, or St. John's wort. Now we're spending more than 4 billion dollars a year on these and other remedies. But consumer investigator Becky Thompson reports that the money might be wasted and you might be risking your healthy if you're taking herbal remedies while taking prescription drugs.

1:25 – Package

NBC – GAS PRICES & OTHER CONSUMER ISSUES . . . MARCH

Today

Wednesday, March 5

TODAY explores the rising gas prices. Will a war with Iraq cause more of an increase at the pump?

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: PRIMARY ELECTIONS . . . JANUARY

1/06/03, 6 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

JUDGE RACE

A local magistrate has thrown her hat into the ring for a seat on the Blair County Court of Pleas.

:32 – SOT/VO

Elizabeth Doyle – Running for Judge

1/07/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

COMMISSIONERS RACE

Two of the three Cambria County commissioners are calling it a career. Dr. Fred Soisson and Ted Baranik say they will not seek re-election when their terms are up this year. Mark Allen has more on what this means for the field of candidates and the balance of power.

:45 – Package

Dr. Fred Soisson – (R) Cambria County commissioner

Ted Baranik (D) Cambria County Commissioner

1/07/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

COMMISSIONERS RACE REACTION

For the first time in several decades, two of the three incumbent commissioners in Cambria County have decided against re-election. Both Democratic nominations are up for grabs and the Republicans want to hold on to their majority. With local political reactions, here's Mark Allen.

1:14 – Package

Rob Gleason – Cambria County GOP Chairman

Kathy Holtzman – (R) Commissioner

Ted Baranik (D) Commissioner

1/08/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

CLEARFIELD RACE FOR JUDGE

Election day is 10 months away, but the time is right for candidates to throw their hats into the political ring. One race in Clearfield County is causing quite a stir because several of the candidates hold various other county offices. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:20 – Package

Paul Cheery – Judge candidate

Kim Kesner – Judge candidate

John Sobel – Judge candidate

Bill Flowers – Republican headquarters

1/13/03, 6 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES

Another candidate for Centre County commissioner has entered the race today. Frank Halderman, a Democrat, feels that Centre County administrators need to do more long range planning.

:38 – SOT/VO

Frank Halderman – Commissioner candidate

1/13/03, 6 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCEMENTS

One newcomer and one veteran of Cambria County politics threw their hats in the ring in the race for County Commissioner. Controller P.J. Stevens and Mylan Gjurich said this morning that they are the team that can lead the county into the future.

:47 – SOT/VO

P.J. Stevens – County Controller

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: PRIMARY ELECTIONS . . . JANUARY

1/14/03, 6 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

CONKLIN RE-ELECTION BID

The chairman of the Centre County Commissioners ended political speculation and said today he is making a re-election bid. He believes his work is not yet finished.

:38 – SOT/VO

Scott Conklin – Centre County Commissioner

1/20/03, 6 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

JUDGE RACE

Two more candidates have entered the race for judge in Blair County. In separate press conferences, Norman Callahan and Bill Haberstroh announced they are seeking the office. Callan was turned out of his seat by voters 14 months ago.

:51 – SOT/VO

Bill Haberstroh – Former Blair D.A.

Norman Callan – Running for Judge again

1/23/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

COMMISSIONER RACE

A long time member of the Altoona School Board will make a bid to become a Blair County Commissioner. Barry Wright says he want to hold the line on tax increases and county spending, including commissioner salaries which will increase to 61,000 dollars over the next 4 years.

:46 – SOT/VO

Barry Wright – Blair Commissioner candidate

1/27/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

JUDGE CANDIDATE

Another candidate is throwing his hat into the ring for judge in Blair County. Terry Yomassetti says his legal experience and work as Assistant D.A. make him the best qualified for the job.

:34 – SOT/VO

Terry Tomassetti – Candidate

1/28/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

BIERLY NOT RUNNING

A long-time Centre County commissioner says he won't be a candidate for re-election this year. Keith Bierly made the announcement today along with his explanation.

:39 – SOT/VO

Keith Bierly – Centre County Commissioner

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: PRIMARY ELECTIONS . . . FEBRUARY

2/3/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

RE-ELECTION BID

A Blair County commissioner wants to keep his job. Today he announced he'll be running for re-election and is looking forward to working on some important new projects for the county.

:39 - SOT/VO

John Eichelberger - Blair Commissioner

2/10/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

COMMISSIONER RACE / BELLEFONTE

A long time prominent businessman is the latest to enter the Centre County Commissioners race. Chris Exarchos is seeking the Republican nomination and feels his business experience will go along way to helping solve the county's problems.

:36 - SOT/VO

Chris Exarchos - (R) Commissioner candidate

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: TAXES . . . JANUARY

1/02/03, 6 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

TAXABLE ENTITIES

2003 will be the first full year Johnstown city manager Jeff Silka will be on the job. What does he hope to accomplish this year?

:35 – SOT/VO

Jeff Silka – City manager

1/03/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

COMMUTER TAX

City officials in Johnstown are seeking to renew the earned income tax for the 10th straight year. That so-called "commuter tax" is paid by everyone living in the city and those who come to Johnstown to work.

:39 – SOT/VO

Joseph Bunk – Finance director

1/16/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

COMMUTER TAX

Workers commuting into Johnstown from neighboring municipalities will be seeing a tax cut. At a court hearing in Ebensburg today, the head of the city's recovery team said the tax will be phased out in 2005. The tax requires court approval and is linked to Johnstown's "distressed city" status. So is this a sign of progress for the city?

:38 – SOT

James Roberts – Recovery Team Chairman

1/21/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

COMMUTER TAX OK'D

There will be no tax break for those who commute to work in the city of Johnstown. A 3-judge panel in Cambria Court approved extending the tax for at least two more years. The city's recovery team showed that Johnstown needs the extra money to help it with its "depressed" status.

:43 – SOT/VO

Judge Gerald Long – Cambria County Court

1/22/03, 5 / 5:30 / 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

INCOME TAXES

You have less than 3 months to send in your income taxes, so you better start thinking about it now. There are many changes this year to deal with. Most of them are designed to put money in your pocket.

:45 – Live

Terry Shook – Tax Accountant

Grace Grumbling – H&R Block

WJAC-TV provided a panel of tax experts to answer viewer questions about taxes. The phone bank was open from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: TAXES . . . FEBRUARY

2/11/03, 6 PM, Tuesday Natasha McBroom

BEDFORD HOTEL TAX

If you have plans to check into a Bedford hotel, you may have to pay a little more for that vacation. That's because a hotel tax could be coming soon. Natasha McBroom reports on the tax that Bedford County Commissioners hope to have in effect by July.

1:17 - Package

Dennis Tice - Director of Visitor's Bureau

2/26/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

POSSIBLE TAX HIKE

The city of Altoona may have to raise taxes to pay for a loan. It would mean a hike in property taxes next year if the city has to borrow more than 8 million dollars.

:41 - SOT/VO

Tom Martin - Altoona Mayor

2/26/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Dave Zafris

ALTOONA TAX HIKE

It looks more and more like taxpayers in Altoona will be getting a bigger bill next year. As city leaders start work on the 2004 budget, they are seeing a need for some capital purchases that can't be put off and that means money is needed. A tax hike could be the only answer. Dave Zafris reports.

1:02 - Package

Joe Weakland - City manager

2/27/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Dave Zafris

ALTOONA TAXES

Altoona is thinking about raising taxes to pay for an increase in capital spending. The tax hike is still on the drawing board and won't be passed for some time, but we crunched the numbers and it doesn't look good. Dave Zafris reports.

:59 - Package

Joe Weakland - City manager

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: TAXES . . .MARCH

3/4/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Lisa Parker

FILING ON LINE

April 15th is the deadline to file your income taxes. Many people will do that from their home computer. This year, the IRS has something new, you may be able to file your taxes on-line for free. That's the way the IRS wants you to fix if possible. They believe that's the way that is most error free. Lisa Parker reports on why.

1:18 – Package

Terence Lites – IRS

Malissa Fritz – Taxpayer

3/7/03, 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

BEER TAX GOING DOWN?

A proposal to reduce taxes on beer is getting mixed reaction from lawmakers and law enforcement. Federal legislators are considering cutting the Federal excise taxes paid by distributors on beer purchases. But in State College, the police chief believes it sends the wrong message.

:33 – SOT/VO

Tom King – State College Police Chief

3/12/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

ALTOONA TAX HIKE

It looks like Altoona taxpayers might be paying a lot less than they thought they would, but a tax hike is still in the forecast for next year. The current proposal means a hike of about twenty dollars a year. But it comes with a restructuring of city loans.

:36 – SOT/VO

Mark Geis – Council member

3/17/03, 5:30 PM, Monday Roseanne Colletti

INCOME TAXES

There's less than a month to file your income taxes. Unfortunately, many taxpayers miss the gimmies and lose valuable deductions. Rose Colletti reports.

1:52 – Package

Jeff Hops – CPA

3/25/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

INCOME TAX RISE

Governor Ed Rendell made a lot of promises during his campaign, especially pertaining to school districts receiving more financial aid from Harrisburg and property owners getting tax relief. Now it appears that his plan includes raising the state income tax by 34 percent. Mark Allen reports on how the Governor hopes to persuade lawmakers to agree with him.

:52 – Package

3/26/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

TAX INCREASE DISCUSSION

The proposed tax increase that Altoona City Council has been debating keeps getting smaller. The council is trying to consolidate loans in an effort to minimize the increase. They say they believe they owe that much to taxpayers.

:34 – SOT/VO

Joe Weakland – City manager

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . . JANUARY

1/03/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Mark Allen

ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Governor-elect Ed Rendell says he wants to hit the ground running on economic development. He has scheduled several meetings across the state to assess the economic needs and opportunities of each region. Mark Allen reports.

1:53 - Package

1/06/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Sophia Wharton

INTERNET PROJECT

A 450 thousand dollar grant from the State means wireless broadband Internet service will soon be available to everyone in the small community of Glendale. Sophia Wharton reports on what it means to the remote community.

1:15 - Package

Dennis Bruno - Superintendent, Glendale

1/07/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Sharon Epperson

MEDICARE CHANGES

As a new Congress is sworn in today, President Bush is expected to seek some vast changes in Medicare. Sharon Epperson takes a look at the plan and how it affects elder Americans.

1:39 - Package

Joan Woodward - Goldman Sachs

Rep. Pete Stark - (D) California

Vicki Gottlich - Center for Medicare Advocacy

1/07/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Alison Burns

BUSH PLAN

President Bush says he is proposing a bold plan to boost America's economy because he says the need is urgent. Alison Burns reports on how the plan is expected to work.

1:16 - Package

Sen. Tom Daschle - Minority leader

1/08/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Michaels Williams

CABLE RATES

Up, up and away - that's what a new Federal report is saying about your cable rates. They've gone up 6 percent since last year, or 6 times the rate of inflation. Michael Williams reports on the heat Congress is now under to do something about it.

1:55 - Package

Susan Velasco - Cable subscriber

Partk Weglarczyk - Cable subscriber

Gene Kimmelman - Consumer Union

1/08/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

GARBAGE FEES

Johnstown Mayor Don Zucco wants to know why his name was left off the city's garbage collection list. It's an omission that meant he wasn't receiving a bill. He wants to know how many others are receiving free service and how this happened.

:37 - SOT/VO

Mayor Don Zucco - (R) Johnstown

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . . JANUARY

1/09/03, 11 PM, Thursday Mark Allen

DILAPIDATED HOUSES

Johnstown mayor Don Zucco says there are too many run-down houses in the city, but property owners aren't doing anything about it. Zucco wants the city to take care of the problem permanently. Mark Allen reports.

1:20 - Package

Robert Patterson - Resident

Mirrel Plummer - Resident

Don Zucco - Johnstown mayor

1/14/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

MEYERSDALE/CUTTING POLICE FORCE

Residents of Meyersdale may soon be without 24-hour police protection. Borough Council members recently decided to lay off one police officer and will vote on whether to cut another one. The decision is not sitting well with residents or the police chief.

:50 - SOT/VO

Bonnie Tressler - Meyersdale

Glenda Weimer - Meyersdale

Ron Ackerman - Meyersdale Police Chief

1/14/03, 6 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Physicians in Pennsylvania have gotten a new ally in the fight against rising malpractice costs. Governor-elect Ed Rendell says he is forming a cabinet-level agency to tackle the medical malpractice crisis and coordinate efforts to improve Pennsylvania's health care system.

:53 - SOT/VO

Dr. Michael Moses - Orthopedic surgeon

1/15/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Mark Allen

WEATHER ASSISTANCE

A Cambria County organization that helps people in the cold weather is in need of some help of its own. One of the programs through the Cambria County Community Action Council is out of money. The organization is doing what it can to provide cold weather assistance. Where can residents turn now that the state has cut its assistance program?

:48 - SOT/VO

Debra Zimmerman - Cambria County Community Action

1502/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Blair County is about to have something it hasn't had in years. The County Planning Commission will get started tonight putting together a comprehensive plan that will guide development in the county for the next 20 years.

:47 - SOT/VO

Richard T. Haines - Blair County Planner

1/16/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Mike Williams

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

The President was in Pennsylvania today speaking out about a problem affecting both doctors and patients, medical malpractice. Pennsylvania has one of the highest malpractice

insurance rates for doctors in the nation. The President is calling on Congress to cap jury awards in those types of lawsuits. Mike Williams reports.

1:48 – Package

Dr. Sharon Malone – OB/GYN

1/16/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Jon Meyer

POINT STADIUM

Johnstown city leaders say the Point Stadium will be in use again by the summer. Right now, parts of the 75 year old facility are crumbling, but short term repairs are being made. Who is going to pay for the many problems when there is no tenant for the stadium? Jon Meyer reports.

1:03 – Package

George Arcurio, Jr. – Old Timers Association

Cheryl Ebersole – Alleg. Mtn. Conv. Visitors Center

Jeff Silka – City manager

1/16/03, 11 PM, Thursday Mark Allen

RENDELL & MALPRACTICE PROBLEM

During a visit to our State today, President Bush said he is looking to stop the skyrocketing cost of insurance premiums for medical malpractice. But our State's next Governor says Bush's plan doesn't go far enough. Mark Allen reports.

1:27 – Package

Ed Rendell – Governor-elect

1/17/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

NEW CABINET NOMINEE

Dennis Wolff is the State's new Secretary of Agriculture in Gov. Rendell's administration. Wolfe wants to provide increased economic incentives for farmers.

:38 – SOT/VO

Dennis Wolff – Incoming Ag Secretary

1/21/03, 6 / 11 PM, Tuesday Jon Meyer

RENDELL CHALLENGE

Ed Rendell took the oath of office today on the steps of the Capitol in Harrisburg. During his speech, the new governor warned that we must expect "the short term pain of spending cuts and potential new taxes." But with those proposals will come a revived future. Jon Meyer reports.

1:13 – Package

Donna Schmidt – Somerset County Treasurer

Rosemarie Thomas – Johnstown

Joanne Ferrance – Berks County

Ruth Villa – Jerome

Gerald Cox – Oxford

1/21/03, 6 / 11 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

GOVERNOR TRANSITION

Politicians have an adjustment ahead of them and say they are looking forward to working with Pennsylvania's new governor. Gary Sinderson talked to some of our Harrisburg legislators about the transition and how it will affect the operation of government.

1:35 – Package

Mark Singel – Former Lt. Governor

Arlen Specter – Senator

Rick Geist – State Representative

Ron Jubelirer – Senator

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . .JANUARY

1/22/03, 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

CAMBRIA 911 DIRECTOR LEAVES

Cambria County is looking for a new emergency management director after Michael Hoover quit his position. The county lost its Federal license to operate the facility due to a mixup over the expiration dates on the licenses. Was the director leaving the result of the mixup and consequent problems?

:39 – SOT/VO

Dr. Fred Soisson – County Commissioner

1/22/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

DILAPIDATED HOUSES

The City of Johnstown is getting serious about getting rid of blighted buildings. The council has a plan to allow the city to demolish 23 structures within the city without having to acquire the property.

:39 – SOT/VO

Ron Andrews – Economic Development

1/24/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Dave Zafris

PENNDOT SALT SUPPLIES

With the frigid weather, PennDOT crews have been out on the roads nearly every day. And they're using a lot more salt than expected. Will they be able to continue in this overtime schedule and will their salt supply last the whole winter? Dave Zafris reports.

1:01 – Package

Walter Tomassetti – PennDOT Maintenance

1/29/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

SMOKING LAW

For smokers, the number of places where you can't light up are on the increase, and now some are pushing for local governments to have a greater say in designating smoke-free areas.

:41 – SOT/VO

Allen Snider – Tobacco Prevention Group

1/31/03, 11 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

An area legislator says Pennsylvania is facing a medical emergency over malpractice insurance costs. He's calling for a special legislative session to address it.

:46 – SOT/VO

Rep. Kerry Benninghoff – (R) Centre County

***NBC: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT /
POLITICAL ISSUES JANUARY***

Nightly News

Thursday, January 2

Nightly News examines prescription drug costs. Will Congress be able to stop the escalating cost of medication for seniors?

Nightly News

Monday, January 13

Nightly News examines tax refunds. The Bush administration predicts that the average taxpayer may get a hefty sum back. Lisa Myers has a reality check on what that really means for your wallet.

Nightly News

Friday, January 17

Tonight on Nightly News, why is the U.S. government scaling back health coverage for thousands of veterans? How could this happen now, and are there more cuts on the way?

Today

Wednesday, January 22

A look back on the 30th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. What does the future hold for this landmark Supreme Court case.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . .FEBRUARY

2/4/03, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Natasha McBroom

ZONING DISPUTE

New zoning regulations could become a reality for an Altoona neighborhood, and residents aren't happy. The Altoona Planning Commission is recommending that Garden Heights be changed from all residential to a mixed residential and commercial district. Residents believe that will make property values go down and trash and traffic go up.

1:00 – Package

Bob Lestochi – Garden Heights resident

2/4/03, 6 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

CELL PHONE SURCHARGE

Emergency service providers are lobbying state legislators to approve an added surcharge on your cell phone bill. The extra charge would be used to buy cell phone tracking equipment across the state of Pennsylvania. That equipment will help track the location of those calling 9-1-1 on cell phones.

:38 – SOT/VO

Dan Tancibok – Centre County 911 Director

2/4/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Natasha McBroom

ZONING HEARING

Altoona residents voiced their opinions at a public hearing tonight about possible re-zoning plans in some neighborhoods. The plan would change some residential areas to a residential/commercial mix. Natasha McBroom reports that the majority appeared to be against the change.

1:10 – Package

Tom Stout – Commission Chair

2/5/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

REACTION TO POWELL

Secretary of State Colin Powell made the case against Iraq to the U.N. and the American people. Here is the reaction of our local congressmen.

:45 – VO

2/5/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Alison Burns

AMBER ALERT STALL

There are now charges that Washington red tape is putting the lives of America's children at risk. The proposal for a national Amber Alert program to find missing children is caught up in political mess. Alison Burns reports.

1:51 – Package

Ed Smart – Father of missing girl

Ernie Allen – Center for Missing Children

2/6/03, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Jon Meyer

PENNDOT PROBE

PennDOT is ripping us off. A yearlong audit shows a quarter of a million dollars in unnecessary spending. Jon Meyer is live with details on this fleecing of Pennsylvania.

1:35 – Package

Robert Casey – (D) PA Auditor General

Sec. Allen Biehler – PennDOT

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . . FEBRUARY

2/17/03, 6 / 11 PM, Monday Jon Meyer

DISASTER EMERGENCY

This storm is making an already bad winter even worse. For municipalities throughout our area, clearing off the roads has become a major cost. It is one that could push them well over budget. Because Ed Rendell declared a state of emergency, that could help. Jon Meyer reports.

1:13 – Package

Benedict Vinzanni – Somerset Borough manager

Rick Lohr – Emergency Management

2/19/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Michael Williams

TERROR PREPS

The Office of Homeland Security has been criticized for issuing alerts without really telling the American public how to respond. Well today, the office came up with some answers on how we should prepare for terrorist attacks in a new national information campaign to get everyone ready. Michael Williams reports.

1:50 – Package

Tom Ridge – Sec. Homeland Security

Stephen Push – Wife died in Pentagon

2/19/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Alison Burns

GOVERNMENT SURVEILLANCE

There's a new effort to stop the government from spying on you. Civil rights groups have filed the first Supreme Court appeal since the Sept. 11th attacks to limit the government's surveillance powers. Alison Burns reports.

1:50 – Package

Khalil Jahshan – Anti-discrimination Comm

Michael Scardaville – Heritage Foundation

2/20/03, 11 PM, Thursday Dave Zafris

AGING SEWER SERVICE

Government leaders in Clearfield are struggling over whether or not to upgrade their sewage treatment plant. As Dave Zafris reports, it would mean spending millions of dollars in a weak economy.

1:42 – Package

Robert Stasik – Environmental specialist

Allan Martin – Council member

Fred Pizzella – Council member

2/21/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Gary Sinderson

STOPPING BRAIN DRAIN

Trying to keep more Pennsylvania college grads from leaving the Keystone State is the primary factor behind a new proposal by Governor Ed Rendell. It is aimed at developing business opportunities in college towns. Gary Sinderson reports.

1:55 – Package

Carol Guyer – Cloudminders Kite Shoppe

Tom Kepple – Juniata College

Michael Lehman – Juniata College

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . . FEBRUARY

2/21/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

BETHLEHEM LAND

Johnstown city leaders are hoping to solve an economic development problem, the lack of open space. Officials are working on a proposal asking the buyer of Bethlehem Steel to sell land it owns within the city limits. That land could be used to draw business to the troubled city.

:39 - SOT/VO

Ron Repak - Redevelopment Authority

2/28/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Mark Allen

LAUREL CREST SALE

The residents and workers at a Cambria County nursing home seem to be running out of options. A State Court of Appeals has dismissed an appeal to halt the sale of the county-owned Laurel Crest Nursing Home. But they are not ready to give up yet. Mark Allen reports.

1:10 - Package

Jim Morrissey - Laurel Crest resident

Dr. Fred Soisson - County Commissioner

2/28/03, 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

GAS PRICE CONTROLS

A local congressman wants the Federal government to better oversee the sudden changes we experience in gas prices, which he says are having a direct effect on the economy.

:34 - SOT/VO

Rep. John Peterson - (R) 5th District

***NBC: GOV. RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT /
POLITICAL ISSUES . . . FEBRUARY***

Nightly News

Wednesday, February 19

The government has unveiled a new program to help Americans prepare for a possible terror attack. Is it valuable information or the source of more fear?

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . .MARCH

3/3/03, 11 PM, Monday Dave Zafris

WATER CONTROVERSY

The township supervisors in Susquehanna Township have decided that the more than 100 homes in that township must tap into the Northern Cambria water system. Some of them are not too happy about being forced to spend the money for a service they don't want. Dave Zafris reports.

1:08 – Package

Ken Stoltz – Township supervisor

3/4/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

PENNSYLVANIA BUDGET

The governor delivered a balanced budget today. However it took cuts to important social services to do it.

:39 – SOT/VO

Ed Rendell – PA Governor

3/4/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

PATRIOT ACT

In the wave of stepped-up measures after the Sept. 11th attacks, there's also criticism that police and federal authorities may have too much power in tracking suspected terrorists. The issue is a topic of discussion in State College where lots of crowds for major events means lots of security planning. Gary Sinderson has more on the debate centering on our civil liberties.

1:45 – Package

George Kleindorfer – Oppose Patriot Act

Chris Martinez – Opposes Patriot Act

Tom King – State College Police Chief

Richard McCarl – SC Borough Council Pres.

3/4/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

BUDGET REACTION

For many county administrators, Gov. Rendell's budget proposal isn't all that rosy. They are already trying to pay for mandated programs from the State amidst their own funding problems.

:41 – SOT/VO

Scott Conklin – Centre County Commissioner

3/4/03, 11 PM, Tuesday Mark Allen

PA BUDGET

Gov. Rendell says tax increases could be on the horizon. He unveiled his budget today for the next fiscal year. His plan is painful but it does balance the budget. Mark Allen reports.

1:33 – Package

Rep. Dan Surra – (D) Clearfield, Elk County

Sen. Jake Corman – (R) Centre County

3/5/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

STATE BUDGET

Gov. Rendell is pushing for a balanced budget so his plan calls for a lot of cuts in spending. But he's saying it's not a done deal yet. Some local officials are happy about that. They have budget shortfalls of their own.

:33 – SOT/VO

Donna Gority – Blair County Commissioner

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . .MARCH

3/5/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

PORN ON LIBRARIE COMPUTERS

Should libraries be required to filter out pornography on computers with Internet access? This is the question justices on the U.S. Supreme Court are trying to answer. Local officials voiced their opinions today on whether the issue is too much censorship or just an effort to keep kids safe. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:22 – Package

Doug Nemanic – Penn State Altoona

Deborah Weakland – Director of Altoona Library

3/6/03, 11 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

LAUREL CREST / POSSIBLE REFINANCING

A Cambria County commissioner who voted for the sale of Laurel Crest says she feels she was deceived. The sale has been held up by legal challenges posed by residents and workers. Kathy Holtzman says there may be a better way to deal with the operation of the home than selling it.

:43 – SOT/VO

Kathy Holtzman – Cambria County Commissioner

3/7/03, 5:30 / 6 PM, Friday Gary Sinderson

UNDER 21 CHAPERONES

With the prom season coming up, new state legislation could have a direct impact on places that host proms and weddings, involving the use of chaperones under the age of 21. As Gary Sinderson reports, some state lawmakers admit that the recently approved legislation may need some fine-tuning.

1:15 – Package

Jason Miller – Chaperone organizer

Rep. Kerry Benninghoff – (R) Centre County

3/10/03, 11 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

LATE-TERM ABORTIONS

A bill was introduced in Congress today that would make late-term abortions a thing of the past. And a local lawmaker has spoken out in favor of the bill.

:32 – SOT/VO

Rick Santorum – (R) Pennsylvania

3/11/03, 6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Internet service providers claim they are against child porn, so politicians want to know why they are challenging Pennsylvania's Internet Child Pornography Act. The act mandates that IPS's remove child porno sites within five days of being notified of their existence by the Attorney General. However, the ISP's say the law is unconstitutional.

:38 – SOT/VO

Ronald Buxton – Dauphin County

3/12/03, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

BUDGET IMPACT

The State Senate today approved Gov. Rendell's budget plan. That happened amidst growing concerns that state money will be greatly cut for human service programs at a time when the need for those programs continues to grow.

:43 – SOT/VO

Carol Waltz – Centre County Counselor

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . .MARCH

3/12/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

PA STATE BUDGET

Gov. Ed Rendell's new state budget has passed faster than any budget in recent memory. Just eight days after being proposed, the budget is on the way back to the Governor for his signature. He has admitted that he doesn't like the budget, and now he is considering vetoing it.
:33 – SOT/VO

Robert Jubelirer – (R) State senator

3/13/03, 6 PM, Thursday Jen Kallin

CHAPERONE LAW/NEW AMENDMENT

A recently passed law is causing problems for many businesses that host Under-21 events. The new law increases the number of chaperones that must be on hand at places that serve liquor. But prom and wedding planners say it's driving up their costs, so a lawmaker is trying to amend the law.:33 – SOT/VO

Rep. Kerry Benninghoff – (R) Centre County

3/14/03, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Friday Jon Meyer

DR. GERALD ZAHORCHAK

The leader of the Greater Johnstown School District is about to oversee many more students, actually millions of them. Dr. Gerald Zahorchak is becoming Pennsylvania's Supervisor of Secondary and Elementary Education based on his work in the challenging Johnstown District.

1:16 – Package

Dr. Vicki Phillips – Secretary of Education

Dr. Gerald Zahorchak – Johnstown Superintendent

3/17/03, 11 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

POINT STADIUM FUNDING

Despite the fact that the State budget is tight, Johnstown's mayor is expressing confidence that the city's on-going effort to secure funding for the Point Stadium project will be successful. Without that money, it is doubtful that necessary repairs can be made to keep the Point in use.

:32 – SOT/VO

Don Zucco – Mayor

3/19/03, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Natasha McBroom

DRUG RALLY

Cuts in Pennsylvania's budget for drug and alcohol treatment has some worried about the possible effects it could have on current programs. That was the issue at a rally today held at the Blair County Courthouse. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:00 – Package

Frank Rosenhoover – Treatment advocate

John Wolfe – Former heroin addict

3/25/03, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

PENN STATE BUDGET

For many college students across Pennsylvania, the state budget confirms tuition increases for next year. For Penn State, it's likely to also mean job cutbacks. For more on the economic impact to our region, Gary Sinderson reports.

:58 – Package

Sen. Jake Corman – (R) Centre County

Dr. Graham Spanier – Penn State President

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: GOVERNOR RENDELL'S PLANS & OTHER
GOVERNMENT / POLITICAL ISSUES . . .MARCH***

3/26/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

NEW TRASH ORDINANCE

City government has been looking for a way to deal with those who don't pay their garbage bills. So Johnstown's City Council has passed a new law to crack down on offenders. By requiring the display of a sticker, the city hopes to weed out the offenders.

:37 - SOT/VO

Jeff Silka - Johnstown City Manager

3/28/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

RENDELL'S ECONOMIC DEV. PLAN

The man in charge of Pennsylvania's economic development brought Governor Ed Rendell's plan to fix the economy to Johnstown today. He detailed the plan that proposes a 2 billion dollar package to work with colleges and universities keeping students in the state and creating new jobs.

:46 - SOT/VO

Dennis Yablonsky - Commerce & Economic Development

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: QUALITY OF LIFE / ENVIRONMENT JANUARY

1/10/03, 5:30 / 6 / 11 PM, Friday Jon Meyer

WIND FARMS

More windmills will soon be lining the hills of Somerset County. There are two wind farm projects set to launch this year and more likely on the way. It's a rapidly growing industry in our area and an environmentally friendly way to generate power. But Jon Meyer found out that it's an industry with very little regulation.

1:00 – Package

Brad Cober – County Commissioner

1/13/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Dave Zafris

CONTAMINATED WATER

Those living in one Cambria County community have been boiling their drinking water since November. A meeting is being held to discuss when Patton's water supply will be back to normal and what the problem is. Dave Zafris reports.

1:00 – Package

Jill Brown – Buying bottled water

1/13/03, 11 PM, Monday Dave Zafris

CONTAMINATED WATER

Patton has come up with some solutions to its water problems. Borough Council is sending its plan to fix the water system to the State for approval. Dave Zafris reports.

1:32 – Package

Steven Bakajza – Patton Mayor

Pat Leyo – Leyo's Supermarket

1/15/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

WASTE DUMPING

Illegal waste dumping is becoming a big issue in Pennsylvania, and some communities are fighting back. A group of thirty people gathered in Philipsburg for a workshop with the goal to keep the state's forest lands clean.

:48 – SOT/VO

Sandy Carlson – PA Cleanways

1/29/03, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

WIND POWER PROJECT

Two companies are gauging public interest for a possible wind-power project in Somerset. The project would provide enough power for 10 thousand homes and not harm the environment in any way.

:34 – SOT/VO

Sam Enfield – Atlantic Energy Corp.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: QUALITY OF LIFE / ENVIRONMENT FEBRUARY

2/3/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Natasha McBroom

MANURE TREATMENT PLANT

Area farms are said to be causing some problems with the water supply in one Blair County community. It appears that both the farmers and the community need help if they're going to fix the problem. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:48 – Package

Phil Kulp – Kulp Family Dairy

2/6/03, 5:30 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

LOGAN TOWNSHIP CENTER

A new shopping center in the region could be on its way soon. Logan Center could soon become a reality but two permits are holding that up. One is from the Dept. of Environmental Protection and at a hearing tonight, people will speak against approving that permit.

:38 – SOT/VO

Greg Morris – Developer

2/6/03, 11 PM, Thursday Natasha McBroom

LOGAN TOWNSHIP CENTER HEARING

A public hearing tonight in Altoona produced a lot of mixed opinions about a new shopping center. The Department of Environmental Protection heard some say that there is possible harm to the environment from the proposed project and that there are already a lot of empty buildings around Altoona available for the shops. Natasha McBroom reports.

1:15 – Package

Richard Bowan – Supports center

David Thomas – Opposes center

Joseph Novak – Concerned citizen

2/7/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Natasha McBroom

LOGAN TOWN CENTER

A new shopping center wants to start building as soon as possible. But permits have to be granted first and those permits from the Dept. of Environmental Protection are in question. How do local residents feel? Natasha McBroom reports.

1:36 – Package

Joe Hurd – Chamber of Commerce

Greg Morris – Developer

Barbara Ray – McIntyre's Candies

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: QUALITY OF LIFE / ENVIRONMENT
MARCH***

3/10/03, 11 PM, Monday Dave Zafris

CONTAMINATED WATER

People in Patton, Cambria County, still can't drink their tap water. Residents claim this has been going on for far too long. Today, action was taken that may bring them a step closer to getting that water filtration system fixed. Dave Zafris reports.

1:35 – Package

Stephen Bakajza – Patton mayor

Pat Leyo – Leyo's Market

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: WINTER SAFETY & OTHER SAFETY ISSUES JANUARY

1/03/03, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

SNOW SHOVELLING

With all this snow, chances are good that you had to shovel your walk or drive today. But it is a heavy wet snow, making that job harder than you think. It is important to use the correct technique or you could end up with back injuries or even a heart attack.

:45 – SOT/VO

Dr. Kimberly Trainer – Chiropractor

1/10/03, 5:30 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

PET SAFETY

With Artic air on its way, veterinarians are reminding pet owners to make sure animals that are kept outside are safe in the cold weather. Cats cannot handle extreme cold and dogs, while more tolerant, and need your assistance to survive.

:37 – SOT/VO

Penny Chamberlain – Blair County Humane Society

1/10/03, 6 / 11 PM, Friday Jen Kallin

SPACE HEATERS

With Artic cold coming to the region, many of you may be reaching back into the closet for your space heater. Before you turn them on, there are a number of safety issues to consider, from cracked cords to placement.

:42 – SOT/VO

Randy Santone – Altoona Fire Dept. Capt.

1/13/03, 6 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

FEELING COLD

It's cold outside and it's going to stay cold for a while. Unfortunately, some of us are going to feel that cold more than others. People with poor vascular circulation should limit their time outside in the cold or the wind for their safety.

:41 – SOT/VO

Dr. Scott Magley – Altoona Hospital

1/20/03, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Sophia Wharton

LAB SAFETY

Do you remember back to the times in Science Class, when you used Bunsen burners to heat experiments? It all seemed safe enough, but was it? Could your child's lab hold some hidden dangers? Sophia Wharton reports.

2:50 – Package

1/22/03, 5 PM, Wednesday Jen Kallin

HYPOTHERMIA

Do you remember when your mom told you to bundle up before heading out into the cold? With these temperatures, that could be life-saving advice. Hypothermia is a gradual process that can set in without you realizing it.

:41 – SOT/VO

Dr. Daniel Wehner – Memorial Medical Center